

Feb.  
27  
2004

# THE TIGER

C L E M S O N U N I V E R S I T Y



**SPORTS:** The Tigers look to tackle Georgia Tech on Senior Day, **B7**

**OPINION:** Take holistic view of Gibson's new movie, **C1**

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## FIRE ENGULFS LOCAL COMPLEX



EMILY CAGGIANO/photo editor



ADORA CHEUNG/interim associate editor



ADORA CHEUNG/interim associate editor

Top: local firefighters tackle the blaze. Above: Only broken pieces of the apartments remain. Directly Above: Smoke clouds the air as firefighters continue to tackle the blaze.

**ADORA CHEUNG**  
Interim Associate Editor

*Fire forces students to vacate their homes and seek shelter at local inns.*

University Ridge, a student apartment complex across Bowman Field, was consumed by flames late Wednesday night and burned down by early Thursday morning. The fire began around 9:34 p.m. and engulfed into flames shortly after the first firefighters responded at 9:38 p.m. The fire, which started in a unit on the first floor, quickly spread upward to the third floor and was fanned by 25 mph winds. More than 100 firefighters, with units from Clemson University, Central, Anderson, Seneca and Oconee County, responded to the scene. By midnight, the fire was contained.

According to University officials, approximately 140 students lived in the apartments and by 1 a.m. Thursday, 136 students were accounted for. The only medical report Wednesday was the transport of one resident, suffering from hyperventilation, to an undisclosed local hospital.

At press time, the cause of the fire was still under investigation. Several students living in the apartment say that the fire began on the side of building facing downtown when a candle dropped in a bathroom and the shower curtain caught on fire.

Kathryn Moore, a senior in com-

munication studies, lived in the apartment building furthest from the believed origin of the fire. She was watching television with a couple of friends when another friend living in another building told her to leave the apartment. "It started in a lower right apartment facing towards downtown ... apartment 118 ... and you couldn't see anything," said Moore. "We actually snuck back in our apartments so I could get my keys and we actually had to run out because they (firefighters) had started to bang on doors."

Moore's roommate, Ashley Orchard, said the fire department arrived promptly even before any flames were shown. Witnesses claim the fire at first appeared to be contained but then suddenly got out of hand.

Officer Marie Gantt worked on crowd control while the blaze grew. She said she was at first called to the scene around 9:30 p.m. but left when told the fire was contained. Just a few minutes after leaving the scene, she was recalled. By the time she arrived, "the apartment was in flames," she said.

"All of a sudden they opened the doors and the flames started on the second level. By then, it just kind of blew up there. We had no idea it would get to the other end. It just went along the roof," explained Moore. "Around 9:30 you couldn't see anything, and by 10 it was pretty much well on its way."

Dottie Eger, a senior in PRTM, lived in apartment 304, in the

building next to the one where the fire was believed to have originated. "They came banging on the doors and we saw the sirens outside. My roommate and I put some clothes on and just came downstairs," said Eger. "It looked like a little fire on the bottom right side apartment. Thirty minutes later, it spread everywhere."

Orchard, a senior in political science, believed that the apartments were made of wood with brick dividers. "We thought that might hold it (fire) in between the apartments but it just went along the entire roof," said Orchard. "The only reason it spread is because when there's open air in the attic, the fire follows oxygen and spread all over the middle."

Hundreds of students gathered on Bowman Field to watch the blaze. Meanwhile, residents stood around in nearby parking lots. By midnight, the fire was contained and none was visible by 2 a.m. Thursday. The buildings had completely burned down. "It's pretty traumatic to just stand there and watch," said University spokesperson Sams.

Moore and Orchard planned to live with friends for now. "It's not even hit me yet," Moore said.

Clemson University made arrangements with Comfort Inn, who offered students rooms Wednesday night. University Housing planned to offer students available rooms beginning Thursday. Other members of the community had also volunteered

SEE **FIRE**, PAGE A6

### TIMEOUT



Go go gadget! Wait until you see what kind of fun we have in store for you! Check out the year's new gadgets, **D6**

### WEATHER

**FRIDAY:** Wintery Mix

**43°**  
**27°**

**SATURDAY:** Sunny

Hi **58** Lo **32**

**SUNDAY:** Partly Cloudy

Hi **63** Lo **48**

### INDEX

Barkerism ..... A3  
Editor's Desk..... C3  
Classifieds ..... A9  
Gameday ..... B1  
In the Books ..... A7

News ..... Sec. A  
On the Prowl ..... D2  
Opinion ..... Sec. C  
Sports ..... Sec. B  
TimeOut ..... Sec. D



## NationalView

### Greenspan's view on economy

Alan Greenspan is insisting that Congress cut spending, mainly the state pension scheme, social security, before the Baby Boomer generation starts to retire. The shortage could balloon under extra demand for state pensions and Medicare, he warned. He was upbeat on the economy, saying that 2004 got off to a strong start. The new Baby Boomer pensioners are already likely to live longer than previous generations and to benefit from medical advances which threaten to boost the bill for treatments to unmanageable levels. The cost of Medicare, the federal health insurance for senior citizens, is rising fast.

### Bush talks on gay marriage

President George W. Bush said he wanted to end judges from changing the definition of the "most enduring human institution." He was speaking after the recent weddings of more than 3,000 gay couples in San Francisco. Bush earlier had urged Congress to approve a constitutional amendment. He said that while some states might want to have legal arrangements for gay people, marriage should only ever be between a man and a woman. A constitutional amendment would be a major political event, as it would need.

## GlobalPerspective

### Woman not guilty of leak

Katharine Gun, 29, a translator who was caught for revealing a secret e-mail, has been cleared of the charges. Gun claimed the e-mail was from U.S. spies asking British officers to tap phones of nations voting on war against Iraq. Gun revealed she was strongly anti-war but said she had not been looking for a piece of information to leak and embarrass the government. Gun pleaded not guilty on Wednesday, after which the prosecution announced it would not be going ahead with its case.

### Swiss search for murderer

The Swiss police is on the look for a German man who had been on duty at the time of a deadly mid-air collision in 2002. The man fled on foot after stabbing his victim in front of his wife at their home in Zurich. The police is not ruling out a link between the killing and the crash. Seventy-one people, mostly Russian children, died over southern Germany. The police said a link to the crash was a "central issue" in their hunt for the attacker, who was described as being powerfully built and age around 50.

### Iraqi aid might be limited

Iraq is getting ready to receive \$500 million of World Bank money in the next several months but billions more in donor funds is not expected to arrive until much later. John Speakman, a senior Bank official, told French news agency AFP that Iraq would have to wait for pledged funds. The risk of the funds being misspent could undermine future reforms, he warned.

## NewsByNumbers

### 34.1

million dollars that Lord of the Rings: Return of the King grossed in its record opening Wednesday this December.

### 14,000

people world wide who is infected by HIV/Aids each day.

### 519

delegates' votes of the 2,161 already pledged to John Kerry in the race for the Democratic nomination.

### 115,000

leatherback turtles that were approximated to live in the Pacific Ocean in 1982. The number has since fallen to around 3,000.

# Nader announces candidacy, some label him election spoiler

ANDY SILVA

The Daily Campus (U. Connecticut)

(U-WIRE) — Winsted, Conn., native and consumer advocate Ralph Nader, who some have argued cost former Vice President Al Gore the 2000 presidential election, announced he will be running for the presidency again in 2004 Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Tim McKee, Connecticut chairman of Draft Nader Campaign, said the support Nader and other Green party candidates have received since the 2000 elections may have had an influence on Nader's decision to run.

"I think the really tremendous amount of support we got in the 2000 election and the support the Green party candidates have received around the country encouraged Mr. Nader to run again," McKee said.

McKee said that despite not being the Green Party candidate, Nader's presence in the election will force the Democratic party to run a campaign more to the political left.

"Unless we hold the Democrats' feet to the fire by running for office, they'll be running to the right and not talking about the important issues we want to talk about," McKee said. "I think the biggest impact will be that the Democrats will have to probably run more to the left and talk about issues such as the single-pay healthcare plan."

McKee said one of the things the Green party wants to do is to distinguish the differences between Nader and the Democratic candidate, which appears to be Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry.

McKee said Nader and Kerry differ on a number of key issues, including Kerry's support of the Patriot Act, job issues and NAFTA.

While making his announcement on "Meet the Press," Nader said both the Democrats and Republicans have been flunking and it is time to bring more people into the political arena. McKee said the goal for the 2004 election is two-fold.

"Our first goal is to defeat George W. Bush and our second goal is to bring millions of new voters into the process," McKee said.

He also said bringing more people into the process will help the growth and development of the Green party.

"Right now only about 50 percent of the eligible voters show up at the polls and students only voted at about a 30 percent rate," McKee said. "If we can bring two or three million more people voting, then we can defeat George W. Bush and grow the Green Party."

The Associated Press has reported there has been a great deal of Democratic opposition to Nader running again. New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson called Nader's decision "a total act of ego" and Democratic National Chairman Terry McAuliffe made pointed comments on CBS' "Face the Nation" Sunday.

"You know, (Nader's) had a distinguished career, fighting for working families and I would hate to see part of his legacy being that he got us eight years of George Bush," McAuliffe said.

McAuliffe also said many Green party supporters are favoring the Democratic party this time around.

"I can tell you Green party members are all coming into the (Democratic) party saying they want to help us because they know the stakes are so big this time," McAuliffe said on "Face the Nation."

According to McKee, the nature of the state of Connecticut makes it possible for voters not to hurt the Democratic party by voting for Nader.

"I think that this is a very one-sided Democratic state, so people will know that if they vote for Nader they won't cause the state to go to the Republican party," McKee said.

According to a press release from the Green party, a suit has been filed charging

the Federal Election Committee with failing to act on their complaint seeking to decertify the Commission on Presidential Debates as a sponsor of the 2004 presidential debates because it is a partisan group controlled by the two major parties.

"The debates are owned and run by the Democratic and Republican parties through the Commission on Presidential Debates," Green party Treasurer Jake Schneider said in a press release.

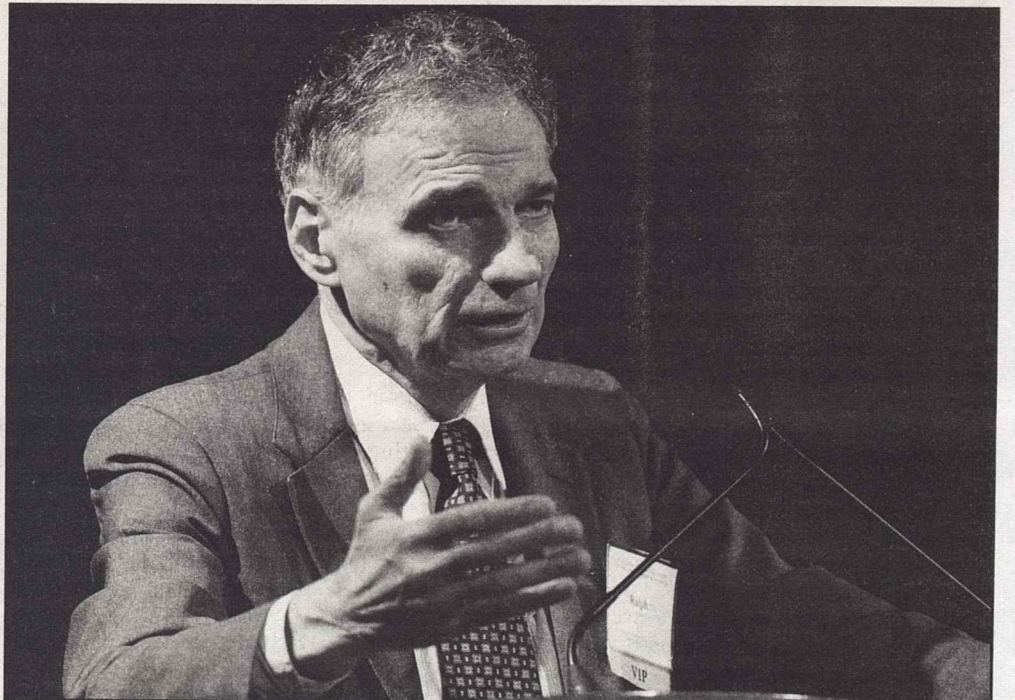
McKee said being a presence in the debates could make a difference in the 2004 elections.

"We feel if we're allowed to debate Kerry and Bush for example, we'll have a much stronger performance in this election," McKee said.

In the 2000 election, Nader received 2.7 percent of the vote while appearing on ballots in 43 states.

According to the Associated Press, Nader's exploratory commission has raised \$150,000 in the last five months and he expects to raise more than what he raised for the 2000 election through many of the same Internet strategies former Democratic hopeful Howard Dean had used.

According to its press release, the Green Party will be holding its 2004 National Nominating Committee from June 23 to June 28 in Milwaukee, Wis.



**SPOILER:** Nader spoke to students at Tillman on Jan. 23. At the time, he was unsure about whether or not he was going to run for president.

# Students suffer reverse culture shock

ELENA DEBELLIS

Tufts Daily (Tufts U.)

(U-WIRE) — While studying abroad requires difficult adjustments — learning new languages, adjusting to new cuisines and making new friends — coming home is rarely any easier. Upon returning to the States, many students step into unfamiliar territory or "reverse culture shock."

Senior Paul Kresser, who returned from Greece, found the transition difficult. "A lack of change at home was what made readjusting really hard," he said. "I had just experienced something incredible and came back to my home life where everything was predictable, and this was very hard to articulate — what exactly had changed inside you — to someone who hadn't ever left in the first place."

The Tufts University Office of Programs Abroad recognizes the stress that students may undergo as they reacquire themselves with life in America as well as life at Tufts. In order to ease students into this readjustment process, the Study Abroad office holds academic advising sessions to troubleshoot any scheduling, credit transfer or registration concerns.

A welcome back dinner and discussion is also held about a month after students return to Tufts. At this event, students are able to share stories and photographs from their various programs and experiences. A Counselor from the Counseling Center also attends the dinner in order to introduce students to the idea of reverse culture shock.

"Everyone has experienced so much and changed so much, that it's important to make that connection with others," Sheila Bayne, the Associate Dean of Study Abroad, said. "I noticed some conversations between students

getting very deep and emotional."

Junior Seth Keim attended this dinner after returning from Melbourne, Australia. "It was really nice to see a lot of new and familiar faces and to hear about everyone's semesters," Keim said. "It really helped to talk to friends who had also studied abroad because I was able to connect on some level with them, even if we weren't on the same program."

Often upon their return, students can feel depressed and alienated from life on campus and their old friends. "When you come back from abroad you don't go back to who you were before you left," said Julie Jampel, Senior Staff Psychologist at the Counseling Center. "It involves a process of finding your place again, which sometimes can be extremely difficult."

Senior Erica Hirsch agreed. "I never really did fully adjust to being back," she said. "I never wanted to remove myself from the experience, which I couldn't express properly to friends from home. I went from waking up to the skyline of Jerusalem to waking up in Somerville — it was not necessarily something I looked forward to."

Hirsch feels so adamantly about her connection with Israel that she plans to move there after graduation.

According to Jampel, the ability to surpass the possible feelings of depression, isolation and lack of motivation is something that comes with time.

"Each person needs time to settle down," Jampel said. "You need to use your time as an opportunity to re-evaluate what is important and what you want to be doing."

According to many students, in order to conquer the restlessness of readjustment, it is helpful to get involved with extracurricular

activities. "I had an easier adjustment than most because I came back to the swim team," senior Jamie Meyers said. "Returning to a sport was helpful because it threw me into a routine again."

Another common reaction upon returning from abroad is a disappointment with American culture. "I began to question a lot of American values," said senior Melanie Yasner, who traveled to London last year. "I started to look at our role in the world very differently."

"When I first got back, I just realized that the Greek culture excited and interested me a lot more than American culture," Kresser said. "I just liked it better over there — it was not as monotonous as (the U.S.)."

Students and administration both agree that an integral part of making a smooth transition from abroad to Tufts is to make sure to remain familiar with the culture one leaves behind.

"People seem to think that when you return from abroad, you leave your experience behind," Bayne said. "We encourage students to embrace their semesters or year abroad and make them parts of their lives here at Tufts."

"I try to read The Economist — stay more up to date with the world," Yasner said. "I also try to stay in touch with my two roommates from London. I got very attached to my life there, so I do my best to integrate parts of my life in London to parts of my life at Tufts."

Keim maintains a similar attitude. "I didn't realize how attached to the culture I had become," Keim said. "I wish I had more contact with Australians so I could keep in touch with them all the time. I know when Australian Rules Football season comes around I will be checking out the websites of Melbourne newspapers to keep up with the sport."



# Globalism series switches focus to education

*Globalism seminar continues with speakers from the education department.*

**HEATHER DOWELL**  
Staff Writer

"Common Values and Global Education" was presented as part of the Plight of Humanity (Globalism) Seminar Series on Tuesday. Dr. Beatrice Naff Bailey and Dr. Dorothy Sluss from the Education department presented the lecture, which was the fifth session in the series this semester.

The focus of this seminar was exploring expanding education to the global level. It also addressed the barriers to and the possibilities of doing so. It posed the question of the ultimate solution to finding a way to increase global education by taking into account all the different perspectives possessed by different cultures and groups around the world.

These perspectives include religious, cultural, economic, political, social, philosophic, biological and historical points of view.

Rebekah Rushton, a senior industrial management major, had the following comment: "Education should teach the basis of education: math, reading, writing but also teach open-mindedness. Global education should teach about different cultures,

so that children grow up more tolerant of others unlike themselves and appreciate all that each culture brings to the world."

Preceding the lecture was a tape featuring David Freudberg and Robert Muller, the Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations in 1975. In the tape, Muller comments that "education should bring joy" and "contribute to the art of happiness."

Muller also emphasized that differences in learning abilities and interests are something to be celebrated instead of ridiculed as in the case of children with different interests or levels of learning ability.

The lecture presented immediately after the tape was followed by a feedback discussion session from the audience. Audience participation and responses were critical in the effectiveness of the seminar. Participants were asked to share ideas about expanding education globally and read inspirational quotes from supporters of humanitarianism and education, including Franklin Delano Roosevelt and former Chief Justice Earl Warren, out loud for further thought provocation.

The seminars in the series all share the goal of searching for common human values that can effectively deal with the controversial questions of terrorism, wars, hunger, prejudice, fanaticism, disease, human rights,

global education and tools for economic, social, political and spiritual progress.

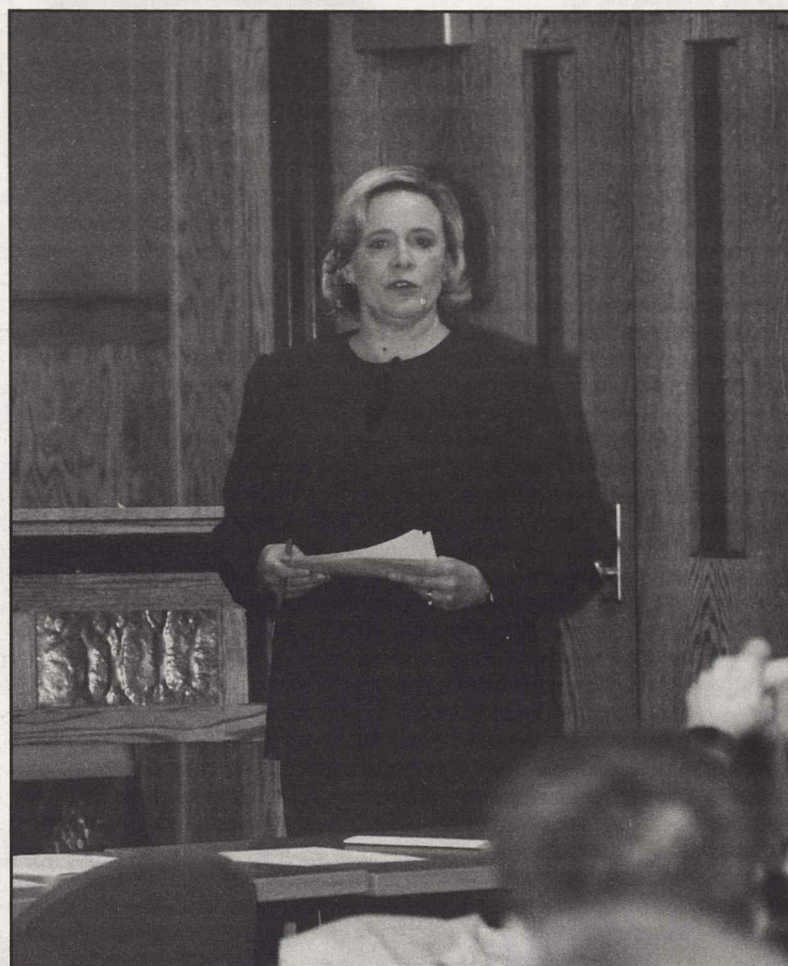
The entire campus community is encouraged by the directors to not only participate in the dialogue time offered by each individual session but also to reflect on the issues presented in the seminars concerning the vital struggle for the future of humanity across the globe.

Comments about how each individual facilitates their daily lives to contribute to a better and more peaceful world for themselves, their families and the entire human race are welcomed and encouraged as well.

The Plight of Humanity (Globalism) Seminar Series, sponsored by Clemson University's Business and Behavioral Sciences College, are being held weekly for six to 10 consecutive weeks each semester on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in room 364 Sirrine Hall.

Dr. Roger K. Doost, professor from the School of Accountancy and Legal Studies, serves as the coordinator for the seminars.

The topic of working toward a humanely functioning world order will be explored during the next three semesters. For more information about the seminar series and upcoming seminars, visit Clemson's "One World" Project Web site.



**SPEAKER:** Dr. Beatrice Naff Bailey spoke to the students about bringing the value of education to the global market.

## Summer camps promise employment opportunities

*Camps offer experience and education for willing students.*

**KELLY VALAITIS**  
Staff Writer

Weather has fluctuated greatly recently in Clemson, with some days feeling like springtime and other days overcast by ice storms and wintry mixes. But the Sun is peeking through the clouds, and students are hopeful of warmer weather on the way. With this change, University students are faced with the question of what to do with their summers.

Summer jobs are one option, and many students are pondering possible job and internship opportunities offered through the University.

What would be a great way to enjoy the beautiful weather at Clemson in the summertime with free housing and free lunches? Does a conference assistant for Clemson University's Summer Camps and Conferences sound like a good idea?

The Clemson University Summer Camps and Conferences is now accepting applications to become a conference assistant for Summer 2004. Ian Piekutowski, the Summer Camps and Conferences Manager, said the conference assistants must live on-campus and are responsible for a group of camps or conferences.

"They'll work with them (the camps and conferences) if they have any problems or special requests that they didn't know about," he said.

A conference assistant would not be a typical summer job, however. The Summer Camps and Conferences provide free apartment-style housing on-campus including two bedrooms, a kitchen and a full bath. Also, the position may count as an internship requirement for college credit regarding the student's major.

Employment begins May 10 and ends Aug. 8. Conference assistants must attend all workshop and training conferences as assigned by their conference managers. Other duties include office assistance, general conference and event preparations, serving as a referral or resource person to event participants, performing desk duties, inventory reporting, responsibility for locking and unlocking buildings and representing Clemson University with a positive attitude.

Conference assistants are guaranteed 30 hours of pay each week. Undergraduate students will be paid \$6.25 while graduate students will be paid \$6.27, according to the summer camps and conference website. Assistants can also catch up or get ahead of their Clemson schoolwork by taking up to three credit hours per summer session.

Even though all Clemson students are eligible to apply, Piekutowski said they are looking for PRTM and Management majors. "It fits better with their major," he said. Students can go to the front desk at the Madren Center to pick up an application, which are due Mar. 1.

Camps range from academic topics to sports and from college-level research conferences to youth learning institute camps. Piekutowski said the Clemson Summer Camps and Conferences program serves as a "middle-man."

"We're just there to assist (the coaches and participants of the camps)," he said.

Academic camps include Architecture, BB&T Economics, Bioscience, Career Workshop, CU Women's Council, Engineering, Clemson Freshman Orientation, Clemson Young Alumni, Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend, Future Farmers of America, Junior Sirrine Summer Scholars, Math Excellence Workshop, Foothills Presbytery Work Camp, Princeton review, S.C. Art Commission, S.C.

Beekeepers, Summer Science, Engineering and Architecture and Women in Science and Engineering. Other academic camps not open to the public can be found on the website.

Sports camps include baseball, womens and men's basketball, cheerleading, Tommy Bowden Football Camp, golf, Clemson

Tiger Tennis Camp, track and field camp, mens and women's soccer and volleyball.

Piekutowski recently graduated from Clemson in May 2003 with a degree in business management. He said, "If anyone is interested in staying on-campus this summer with free housing and is a hard worker (they should apply)."

If you would like to become a conference assistant for summer 2004, pick up an application at the Madren Conference Center Information Desk. Applications are due March 1. For more information call (864) 656-7155 or visit the Madren Center during regular business hours.



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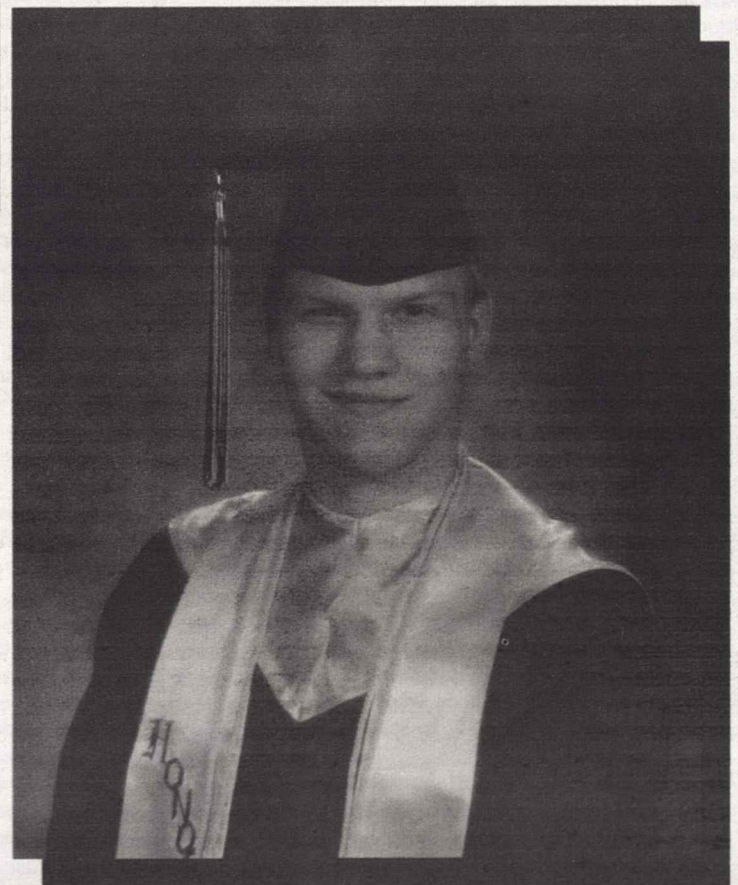
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### WEEKLY

**BARKERism...** "We're encouraged that the members of the House have recognized the importance of our mission of public service." February 19, 2004





## THE ROAD TO OFFICE: Focus on Student Body Elections

**T**he offices of Student Body President and Student Body Vice President have many responsibilities on campus. The President is the chief advocate for students on campus. He or she is in charge of appointing a cabinet which will have power to influence the judicial branch of government, the homecoming pageant, and the parking

committee among other things.

The Student Body President, along with the treasurer, is in charge of the Government Budget and allocation of the Student Activity fee.

Fletcher Anderson, the current Student Body President, offered advice for the candidate who will fill his role.

"Buckle up and realize that much of your time will be spent

working for the University. The time you spend working for your constituents will have to come from internal proactivity," he said.

Campaign season brought six new campus leaders to the spotlight this year. The candidates have campaigned throughout every corner of campus from the library to the cafeterias. They utilized signs and stickers and

shared many of the same beliefs, but, at the same time, they have each brought separate issues to the table.

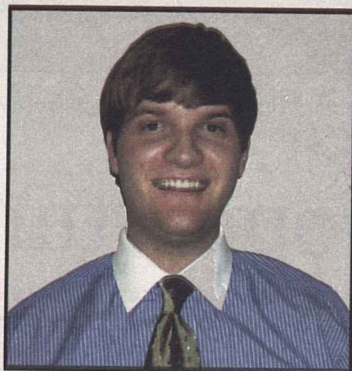
While the candidates were hard at work, the undergraduate Student Senate was closely examining types of election reform. On Feb. 23, the Senate passed a bill that will change the structure of next year's election; the elections are currently held on the first

Wednesday of March with runoffs on the first Monday.

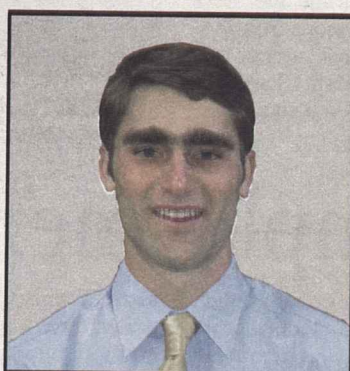
The new bill places the election on the first Monday of March with runoffs that following Wednesday. Another bill concerning expediting the elections process failed in committee.

For the second year, students will be able to vote exclusively online, and the first round of the election will be held Mar. 3.

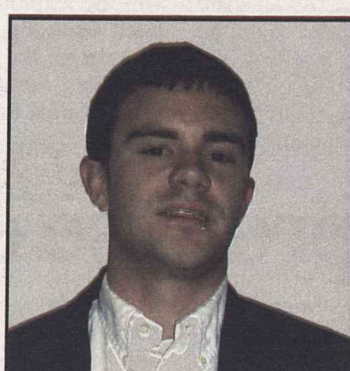
### Representing Presidential Candidates



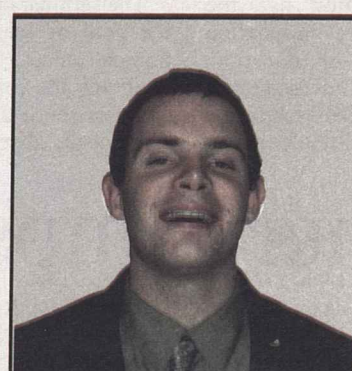
Adam Hammond



Daniel Perry



Cooper Ellenburg



Danny Higginbotham

Running for Student Body President is something Adam Hammond knew he would do from his first day at Clemson. "After Fletcher got elected, I announced that I would run the next year."

According to Hammond, Student Government needs to be reenergized. If elected, Hammond will begin his presidency with a State of the Student Body address to lay out goals and visions of Student Government for the coming year — to get things off on the "right foot."

A senior, and a triplet, Hammond has been actively involved since he came to Clemson — a decision he made based on tradition. "My older brother and dad went here ... I always knew in the back of my mind I would come to Clemson."

Hammond feels that his experience sets him apart from some of the other candidates. A member of the President's Cabinet for the past two years, he said that he knows what to expect. "(If elected), it would be a very smooth transition."

According to Hammond, being Student Body President is all about the little things — the details. He believes it is necessary to be in touch with the student body and to know exactly what they are feeling.

One of the issues on the mind of every student is that of budget cuts that result in tuition increases. "Number one thing is: I cannot stop budget cuts." However, Hammond was responsible for creating a coalition of higher education schools in the state to act as a lobbying group in Columbia. To him, it is important for Student Government to have a "strong, regular presence at the Capital."

One of the things Hammond wants to get completed during his time in office is the memorial that ODK is working on for deceased students. To do this, Hammond would pledge student activity fee funds to finish the project.

Hammond plans to one day be involved in government but only after a career in banking. "I thrive off of speaking and public service, especially to Clemson. That is what excites me — (the) opportunity to serve at such a large scale."

The most difficult thing for him to do if elected President? "Maintaining a normal life among all of the politics."

Hammond is a senior in Financial Management with a 3.35 cumulative GPA.

Daniel Perry is the one candidate running for President who has not had Student Government experience here at Clemson. But, Perry does not consider it to be a problem.

"My qualifications are that I see Clemson going in a certain direction, and I see a lot of things that need to be changed. You don't necessarily need a certain type of qualification. Just run and voice your opinion and try to make a change."

"(I've) always had ideas, thoughts and enjoyed politics and debating, but this is my first time actually running for something political."

Perry came to Clemson because of the "University's reputation for his major and for ... the sports like football." Perry is from Columbia but likes being close to the mountains and having the opportunity to participate in intramurals that might not be available at other Universities in the state.

If elected, Perry isn't concerned about being able to do his job.

"I'm going to have people helping (me) out for the practical side of things."

Perry believes the main purpose of Student Body President is to "represent the student body while not having (his) own agenda." He wants to make sure that academic programs are not under-funded and to push the University further by listening to students and being their voice.

Perry worries a little about his lack of "political ties" if he were to be elected and admits that the "administration and faculty may not like some of his ideas."

In dealing with the tuition cuts, Perry wants to make sure that "the University is working with the state and that the state doesn't have its own agenda for the University."

"Tuition cuts should not happen — Clemson is for the common man who wants to work for himself ... If it gets too expensive, it is not doing its purpose."

If elected, Perry will make sure that organizations get the funding that they need to function.

"I want to have a Spring Festival on Bowman, possibly some concerts ... disc golf course possibly."

Perry has always been interested in politics. After graduation, he has no immediate plans to pursue a career in government, but he doesn't know for sure what the future holds.

Perry is a junior in Civil Engineering with a 3.3 cumulative GPA.

Cooper Ellenburg has been part of Student Senate, but he decided to run for Student Body President because that role didn't give him the capacity to get things done that he wanted.

Coming to Clemson is a long standing tradition in Ellenburg's family, with family members living in Seneca and Atlanta.

Ellenburg feels he is qualified for the position even though he hasn't been involved in Student Government to the extent that some other candidates have.

"I've proven myself as a talented administrator, and the leadership experiences I've had in the past help ... (I am a) motivated and hard worker."

Ellenburg's leadership experiences include being president of his fraternity as well as running his own business over the past summer that, according to him, was successful.

"I have a lot of energy and time and want to get things done."

To Ellenburg, the role of Student Body President is to be "the voice of the students ... to get them to have a voice and not (be) apathetic and mobilizing that voice. I want every undergraduate student to be interested in politics ... to care about student body politics."

Ellenburg's platform is simple, consisting of issues he feels represent what the student body wants addressed: no plus/minus grading, improvements in student parking (especially the overselling of commuter permits) and a "dead period" before exams.

To deal with budget cuts and tuition increases, Ellenburg believes Clemson should consider going private, which would "put us on a tier with higher quality schools like Duke." Lobbying in Columbia should not stop, though. Instead, Ellenburg wants that lobbying to be even more intense.

"(It) needs to be as many people as possible ... load up every CAT bus and make a strong statement."

For Ellenburg, representing every Clemson student equally is important.

"I wasn't trying to run under sponsorship or support of any organizations ... I'm trying to identify with people rather than groups."

Ellenburg is a junior with a double major in Political Science and Spanish. His cumulative GPA is 3.45.

Clemson was actually Danny Higginbotham's last choice when he was looking for a school his senior year of high school.

"I was accepted to ten different schools (like the) Naval Academy, FSU and most southeast schools ... But, my blood is as orange as it can be now."

To Higginbotham, Student Body President's purpose is to be an advocate for the rights of the students.

Higginbotham was on the council for undergraduate affairs for two years, where he says he learned to represent the students and to fight for them.

"Anything that infringes on students' rights needs to be fought against — they deserve those rights."

In high school, Higginbotham was a member of student government and was part of the Principal's cabinet. He was also involved in leadership in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a position he carried over to Clemson.

Higginbotham feels that he is the best candidate for the position because of an attitude he possesses.

"I don't give up until I get what I want. A coach once told me: 'I would still find a way to beat him at a sport that had all of my weaknesses and all of his strengths.' I want to give all of me for the whole year to fight for the students."

Higginbotham will address tuition issues by working with the administration and faculty to be the most cost efficient possible.

"First, provide money for those programs that are of the most benefit to the students — (those) increasing the education of the students."

After graduation, Higginbotham will work to get his masters in Hospital Administration.

Government is not a current goal of his, but according to him, there are a lot of "political aspects" to that type of job.

Higginbotham is a senior majoring in Health Sciences with a 2.80 cumulative GPA.



# Presidential Candidates speak at Minority Council

**CAROLINE STONE**  
Editor in Chief

This past Tuesday evening, the Minority Council challenged candidates to consider campus diversity.

As a branch of undergraduate student government, the Minority Council's mission, in part, is to determine concerns of minority students and to serve as the voice of minority students on campus.

After the presidential and vice presidential candidates presented their platforms, the presidential candidates remained on stage to answer their audience's questions.

One student asked them to consider the "importance the minority vote" taking into consideration the "big groups" such as FCA and the Greek organizations that have more voting power.

Hammond, Ellenburg and Higginbotham said minority voters have intrinsic value even if they do not constitute a large part of campus. Perry focused on numbers.

He noted approximately 4,000 of the University's students voted last year, and he said if minority students voted together they could significantly sway the outcome.

Council members questioned the candidates' involvement with previous Martin Luther King Jr. celebrations. Of the candidates, only Hammond and Higginbotham said they had attended the events.

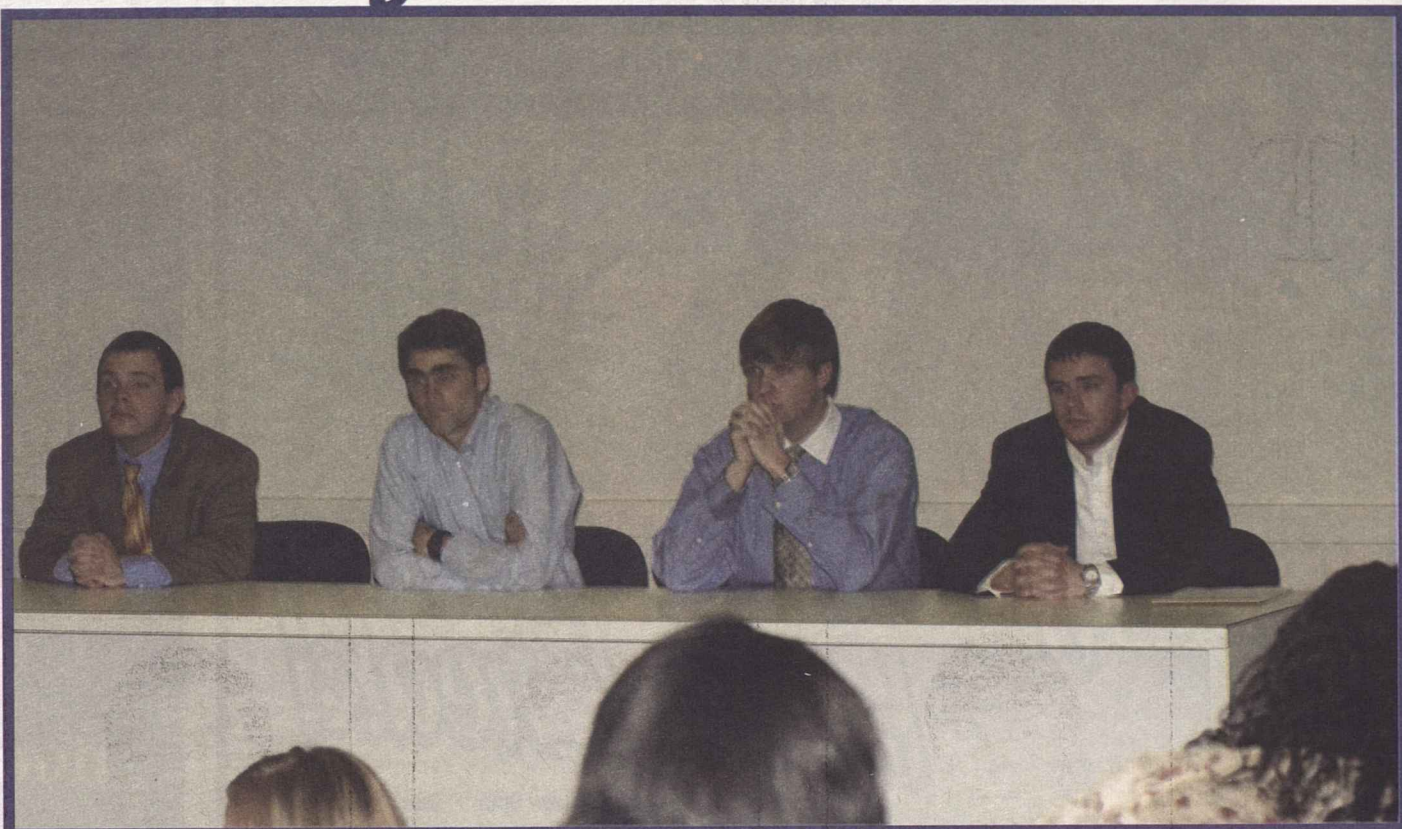
The candidates also explained how they each would work to increase campus diversity.

Higginbotham explained that he would focus on the University's international program. He said that he favors this avenue because it does not currently receive much attention and is a credit to the University.

Perry took a different route. He said, "There is not necessarily one specific solution to diversity." He plans to take a holistic approach to the situation and also suggested that he wants to bring a concert by a "soul artist" to campus.

Hammond presented two avenues to increase campus diversity: "increasing understanding" and recruiting. Referring to the current situation as a "huge problem," he noted "40 percent of state residents are minorities, but only seven percent of students are minorities."

Ellenburg said he wanted to "strengthen existing programs



on campus." He said that many organizations and programs provide opportunities to students to increase awareness and understanding of diversity, but students do not take advantage of them.

Although the vice presidential candidates were not available for a period of questions from the audience, they did present their views on diversity in their platforms.

Bayless said, "We need to take advantage of the diversity we already have on campus ... only then can we draw in more diversity."

Walls said he wants to give students "credit" for attending cultural events. He suggested that students who attended five events could receive an advantage such as registering

for classes in a bracket above their current status.

The candidates' appearance before Minority Council was among many other visits with student organizations on the road to office.

Hammond said he viewed this process as "educational." He explained that by speaking in front of different groups he was able to learn more about the student body and to make plans to interact more with each of these groups.

Many of the other candidates expressed the same sentiment; they viewed the debate before Minority Council as an opportunity not only to express their platform but also as an opportunity to become familiar with the members and the goals of Minority Council.

## Presenting Vice Presidential Candidates

As a Freshman, Katy Bayless had lunch with the Student Body Vice President. Ever since then, she has wanted to take the position because it offers the opportunity to sit on both the legislative and executive sides of Student Government.

"One of the first things I wanted to do in college was get involved in student government."

Bayless, who has worked on both of these sides, believes that "experience does matter."

"I have sat on both (the) executive and legislative branches of student government ... it will give me a key advantage — (it) won't be a difficult transition."

The most important thing that Bayless would want to do if elected is to finish the South Carolina State Student Association, which is a statewide lobbying group for higher education.

"(It is) most important because it would have a huge impact on higher education in South Carolina."

Bayless, who has been the University Public Relations Chair for the Student Senate, believes this experience will help her fulfill her job as Vice President.

"Every year the Vice

President is in charge of forming lobbying groups to take to Columbia. (I will) use my connections as Public Relations Director to work for this — Clemson can't do it by themselves."

Bayless decided to come to Clemson because she wanted to stay in state but not close to her home, which is in Columbia.

"I love the (Clemson) campus and what it has to offer." Bayless sees the role of Student Body Vice President as being available to the student body.

"(Vice President is) a person that a student can come talk to about anything. I want them to hold me responsible for what is happening in Student Government."

According to Bayless, there is not enough communication between the legislative and executive branches of Student Government.

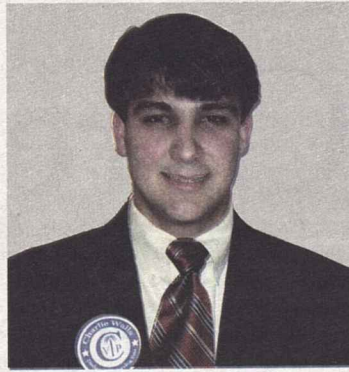
"(We need to) take it to a new level — let the two branches know what is going on."

The most difficult part of the job for Bayless will be "trying to live up to (the student's) expectations."

Bayless is a sophomore in Marketing with a 3.5 cumulative GPA.



Katy Bayless



Charlie Walls

Charlie Walls decided to run for Student Body Vice President because he wants to better Clemson and he feels this is "one of the best ways to do it."

Walls has served on multiple parts of Student Government including the President's Council and Student Alumni Council. Last year, he was the president of the Interfraternity Council. As part of this job, he supervised 21 social fraternities.

Hazing has been a topic of controversy surrounding fraternities here at Clemson as well as on campuses across the nation.

"By educating the fraternities on such topics of hazing, you're going to eliminate a lot of the problems ... (that) arise when people aren't on the same page — communication is key."

Communication is something at which the Student Body Vice President must excel. The role of the Vice President is to be the link between Student Senate and the President. But, Walls wants it to go beyond that. To him, that link must extend to the rest of the student body.

"We need to make sure that what is being decided goes back to the students ... (that) students are

aware of what is going on in student government."

If elected, Walls wants to focus on building a "Cultural Clemson" program that "engages students in the educational events on campus." He would like to combine this idea with the First Year experience so students are involved and embraced by the campus.

"I want to make the learning process more than just the classroom."

In dealing with the budget cuts, Walls wants to extend the coalition of schools that has been created to lobby in Columbia.

"When we go to Columbia, we need them to realize the distinctiveness of Clemson University and the services we are providing for the state. We are more than just a University."

Walls wants to get alumni and student families involved because those are the people that these cuts most affect. "The students are the very tip of the iceberg."

"I want every student to be able to experience Clemson the same way I have — to feel like they are part of the Clemson family."

Walls is a junior in Construction Science and Management with a cumulative GPA of 3.14.



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## FIRE

FROM PAGE A1

temporary spots in their residences.

Additionally, University officials opened a crisis management center in the Alumni Center to assist students. Grief counselors were on hand. Red Cross also set up operations Thursday to help students get back on their feet. Clothing distribution will be provided by Wal-Mart.

The University also offered to cover book costs and told students to go to the University bookstore in the Hendrix Center to obtain any needed text materials for classes. Professors with students' permission will be notified of the

circumstances but will not be officially excused from class. "We let faculty know ... that the students have gone through a traumatic experience.

That they have lost books, computers, notes, that sort of thing," said Sams. "The faculty is very good with working with the students from getting too far behind in class work."

Students affected by the fire are asked to keep checking the Clemson web page for additional updates. Donations to help students displaced by the fire can be contributed to the Student Emergency Fund.

**Senior Staff Elections  
for The Tiger will  
be held March 10.  
Come by the third  
floor of the Hendrix  
Center to pick up  
an application.**

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# Fees help student groups

Controversy surrounds new grading system. Students wait for decision.

**NAYLOR BROWNELL**  
Staff Writer

If Mike Stadnisky and the Senate Finance and Procedures Committee get their wish this summer, Clemson may see an increase in funding for UPAC activities as well as official student organizations.

The Finance and Procedures Committee is looking to raise the student activity fee from \$20 to \$30. This fee is included with the tuition bill every semester, but the two are not related.

"The activity fee is completely independent of tuition," said Stadnisky, the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Instead, the extra money raised by the fee increase would go toward the funded recognized organizations like sports clubs, Greek Life, student government, Central Spirit and UPAC.

With the current fee of \$20, the Finance Committee raises about \$760,000 each year. According to Stadnisky, this is not enough. "What we are providing right now is honestly not the best we could be doing," he said.

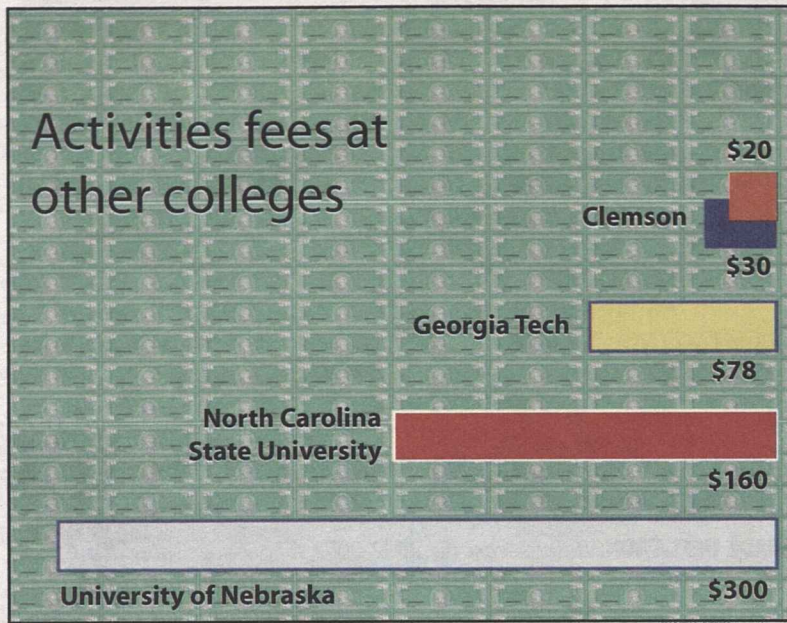
Many organizations have come to the Finance Committee asking for more money for the next school year, and Stadnisky has reported that many are in "definite need" of this raise. "Some organizations could hinge their whole year on this," he said.

In addition, the budget that the Finance Committee has proposed requests about \$1.4 million in funding. Even with the increase, there will still be a deficit of about \$374,000. Without the activity fees, the deficit would be around \$250,000 greater.

The activity fee was created during the 1997-1998 school year and has not been touched since. "We need to account for inflation, more funded organizations, better media groups, and more frequent UPAC programs," said Stadnisky. Also, the activity fee could not be reviewed until this past year, when Stadnisky started investigating the matter.

Stadnisky has compared Clemson's current activity fees with those of other schools, and most of them demand more money. For example, Georgia Tech charges \$78 per semester while the University of Nebraska charges \$300. North Carolina State University requires four separate fees totaling \$160.

"Their student activity fees are ridiculously higher, and yet, as a University, we have more student involvement in the over 300 student organizations that we have," Stadnisky explained. "Students



**FEES:** While the cost of improving student activities would fall on the students, the University's fee is relatively low compared to other schools.

really want added opportunities."

In the Student Senate, the resolution passed with 100 percent support.

To gauge other students' opinions, the Finance Committee conducted a survey of 1,538 students. The survey found that 88 percent of respondents supported a raise in student activity fees. If this number holds true for the student body, it is more than likely that Stadnisky has overwhelming peer support.

In addition to the survey, the Student Senate is still trying to find ways to spread a positive word about the activity fee raise. "We're trying to get the word out, to hit many different avenues, but it's really hard. The students deserve to know," said Ahmed Mohuiddin, chairman of the Student Government's public relations committee.

Mohuiddin's committee has distributed brochures and fliers and made efforts to communicate with people on CCN and on Student Government "reaching-out" days, like last semester's PR Week.

"There is always someone in the office that students can talk to," added Stadnisky.

In order for the activity fee raise to become a reality, the proposition must go through a lengthy review procedure. Now that the Student Senate has ratified the proposal, it next must be approved by the student affairs vice president. If and when she approves it, the proposition would go before the President and his Administrative Council. They would in turn present it to the Board of Trustees, who would ultimately approve or reject the activity fee raise.

Naturally, any change in fees that the Board of Trustees approves is dependent on the state budget that the state legislature issues, which is usually during the summer months. This is where the major roadblock for Stadnisky's proposal will be,

concerning The Higher Education Price Index or HEPI.

Associate Vice President and Dean of Students Joy Smith explained HEPI as a device "sometimes used by our state to determine a maximum level — a 'cap' — for tuition and mandatory fees for colleges and universities." With such a cap in place, institutions could not charge exorbitant rates for tuition, medical fees and activity fees.

"The state is currently proposing legislation which would limit the University's mandatory fee increase on resident students to the Higher Education Price Index (officially 2.5 percent) plus an additional \$250 per semester," said Alan Godfrey, the University's budget director. This HEPI "cap" effectively says that no matter how much the University needs funding, it can only raise student fees a certain amount.

The University could increase full-time fees by around 9.7 percent of current totals. Godfrey commented that, "If the full 9.7 percent increase is required to offset state cuts and/or fund the academic plan, none of the increase could be earmarked for other purposes like student activities, Medical, IT, etc."

If the activity fee is approved, the University could see more UPAC — sponsored concerts and the creation of more "short-courses," like defensive driving courses and SCUBA and CPR certification courses. Also, campus recreation may receive more funding as well as all of the student organizations.

In the meantime, Stadnisky urged students to support the activity fee raise, as it would only support their college experience here at Clemson: "This is not going to your teachers, this is not going to your classes, this is purely for you, your organizations, (your) opportunities at Clemson and your entertainment," said Stadnisky.

## inBO the BOOKS

### CampusArrests [2/18-2/25]

#### February 18

2:24 a.m., Adam Price, public disorderly conduct drunk, minor in possession, Hwy. 93, officer: Hogue

#### February 19

8:59 a.m., Spencer Lord, simple possession of marijuana, Cope Hall, officer: Robinson

8:59 a.m., Christopher Collins, simple possession of marijuana, Cope Hall, officer: Robinson

#### February 20

12:46 a.m., Sara Adamson, public disorderly conduct, Bowman, officer: Felton

#### February 21

2:53 a.m. Tiffany Rackey, driving under influence, Cherry rd., officer: Hughey

5:58 a.m. James Femino, public disorderly conduct, Benet /Sirriner officer: Hughey

12:10 a.m., Jason Miller, public disorderly conduct, Calhoun Courts, officer: Lyle

#### February 22

12:50 a.m., Samer Moukalled, driving under suspension, Williamson Rd. officer: Hughey

### CrimeReports [2/18-2/25]

#### February 16

1:57 p.m., petit larceny, FMO, officer: Ikenegbu

9:49 p.m., simple larceny, Fike, officer: Kaylor

#### February 17

9:50 p.m., suspicious activity, Calhoun Courts, officer: Gant

9:59 a.m., damage to vehicle, Thornhill, officer: Clark

#### February 18

9:53 p.m., damage to vehicle, Centennial, officer: McAbee

2:26 p.m., damage to vehicle, Mell Hall, officer: McGill

#### February 23

7:56 a.m., burglary/larceny, Barre Hall, officer: McGill

3:53 p.m., grand larceny, Lightsey Bridge, officer: Robinson

4:30 p.m., suspicious activity, Johnstone A, officer: Ashley

#### February 24

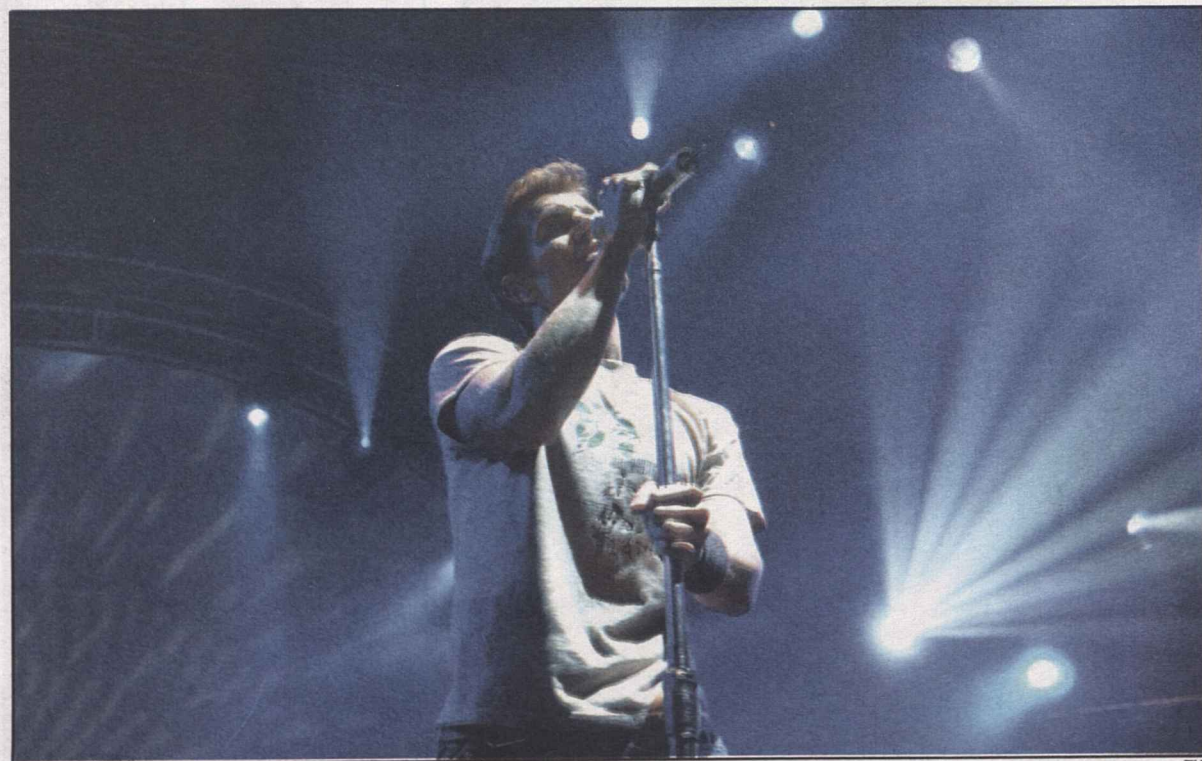
2:17 a.m., suspicious activity, N. Calhoun Court, officer: Hilyer

### OfficerTracker

These are the running tallies of each CUPD officer's arrests since November 20, 2003.

★ One Arrest ★ Five Arrests ★ Ten Arrests

Brooks		Hughey	★★★★
Felton	★★	Lyle	★★★
Gantt	★★★★	Owen	★★
Hillyer	★★★	Smith	★★★
Hogue	★★	Robinson	★★



**CONCERT:** One funded organization, Union Programming and Activities Council, helps bring concerts to campus such as this year's 311 and Alien Ant Farm show.



# Plus/minus system evokes student concern

*Trial period ends for grading system, and students question future.*

**MIKE LEDBETTER**  
Staff Writer

The Student Body Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates seem to have at least one thing in common this year; they all have something to say about plus/minus grading. The candidates, along with other current members of student government, point out that student concern over the new grading system has been growing in recent months.

This year at the end of spring semester 2004, the trial period of the plus/minus grading system that began during fall semester 2002 will draw to a close. The grading system will have undergone a total period of seven semesters: two fall semesters, two spring semesters and three summer sessions, according to Drew Land, Chair of the Academic Affairs committee in Student Government.

The trial period has given University students an alternate glimpse at possible results from a plus/minus grading system, depending on whether or not professors have decided to utilize the option of including plus/minus grades with those from the present grading system, Land said.

Currently, the statistics from 2002-

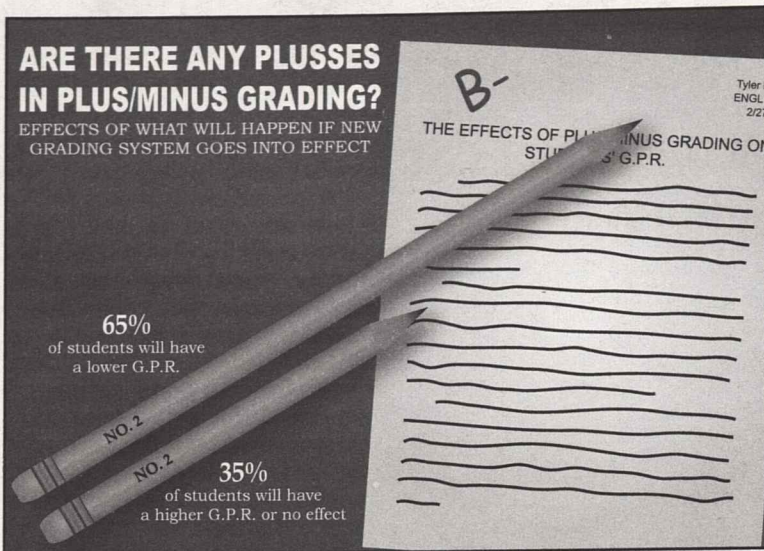
2003 show that from the plus/minus scale approximately 65 percent of the students had slight decreases in their GPRs, although that is "not necessarily earth-shattering," according to Land. He stated that during the spring, surveys of faculty and students will be used to determine the general perception on campus about the system.

Land stated that essentially, students are not in favor of plus/minus grading, mentioning that during the fall of 2001, Student Senate did a survey of general student perception whose statistics showed roughly 70 percent "against" and 30 percent "for" the new grading system.

Once the trial period is over and all the results from surveys are in, the information will be combined and dealt with by the Academic Council chaired by the University Provost, which may happen in June or July, Land said. After meeting with the University Board of Trustees, the Academic Council will make the final decision over whether or not to incorporate the plus/minus system as the new grading policy.

Student Senate President David Dickerson said that "students are very concerned" with the current addition of the plus/minus grading system, simply because they do not see any benefits from it.

Although the plus/minus grading system could rate students' academic progress in a lot of different ways, they don't seem to understand why there



**GRADE DEFLATION:** Results from the 2002-2003 school year show that 65 percent of students' grades decreased as a result of plus/minus grading.

should be a change from the current system, he said.

The general perception appeared to be similar on the student front around campus, several expressing concern that the small decline in GPRs can often cause the drop of an entire letter-grade. Senior nursing students Jenny Thoma and Amber Pottmeyer agreed that they are not in favor of incorporating the plus/minus grading system.

"I don't like it, I don't think it's fair," Thoma said, "If you get a B, you should have at least a 3.0, not less than that."

Sophomore Biosystems Engineering student Ashley Eaddy said that with the plus/minus grading system, she would not have the 4.0 status that she has now.

"Right now, I've got a 4.0 and with the plus/minus grading, I definitely wouldn't have one," Eaddy said. "To me, if you can get an A, it doesn't really matter whether it's an A- or an A+, you've still got an A."

Regardless of what the future outcome of the grading system at the University may be, for now, many students can relax knowing that the trial period will draw to a close this spring.

## President receives honor

*Speaker of House surprises Barker with highest civilian award in Columbia.*

**COREY GREENE**

Interim Assistant News Editor

President Barker was awarded the Order of the Palmetto Tuesday, Feb. 17, while he was in Columbia showing support for the Clemson football team. The Clemson football team was being honored by the S.C. General Assembly for the team's championship Peach Bowl performance and Coach Bowden's ACC Coach of the Year award.

Instead of the team leaving with awards, President Barker left with the Order of the Palmetto after House Representatives Speaker David Wilkins and Rep. Bob Leach surprised Barker by awarding him with the Order of the Palmetto.

"This is an award to Clemson University and all the faculty, staff and students. All of you deserve recognition for the hard work," Barker said.

"People in our state recognize something special is going on at Clemson such as economic development, quality of students and public service," Barker explained.

"I was really quite surprised when I received the award," he said.

The Order of the Palmetto is South Carolina's highest award presented by the Governor for outstanding lifetime service to South Carolina.

Gov. Mark Sanford said, "You have been an outstanding public servant in your role as President of Clemson University," and he also noted his previous years of service to Clemson as a college dean and professor and his contributions to the field of architecture.

"During your time as president, Clemson has enjoyed national recognition," Sanford said.

"This award is a way for the state to say 'thank you,'" Barker said. "I will work very hard to earn the confidence the governor shown in this award. This is another reason for me to be proud of Clemson."

January 2003, Barker was the recipient of the 2002 Buck Mickel Award for Business Community Leadership by the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce and has been named one of the Upstate's most influential people by Greenville Magazine, the Greenville News and the Anderson Independent Mail.

In Barker's four years as Clemson president, he has become an influential voice for higher education in South Carolina and beyond. He is a chairman for the Atlantic Coast Conference and also chairs the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the region's accrediting agency.

Barker recently received the "Pointing the Way" leadership award in ceremonies sponsored by the Anderson Independent-Mail. He was also inducted into the National Boys and Girls Clubs of America Hall of Fame in May 2003.

Barker, a 1970 graduate of Clemson, is a recipient of the National Distinguished Professor Award of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture and served as president of that association. He also was named Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and has received honorary doctorates from South Carolina State University and Mars Hill College.

# final daze

A Campus Craze

## featuring DAVE CHAPPELLE

**UPAC Lawn Party kicks off at 6 pm on the Littlejohn Coliseum Lawn:**

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**April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Littlejohn Coliseum!**

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**Floor \$28**

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\*Prices do not include \$3 Facility Fee

\*\*All tickets + \$5 day of show

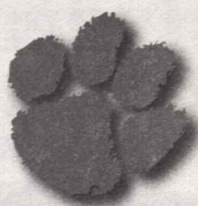
**Lawn Party: 6-8 pm, Doors: 8 pm, Show: 9 pm**

\*No one under 17 admitted

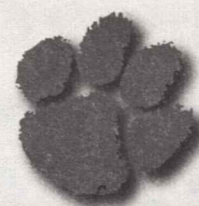
**For more info:**

**[www.clemsonmajorevents.com](http://www.clemsonmajorevents.com)**





# TIGERWANTS



Classifications	Office Telephone Hours	How to place a classified ad	Deadline	Classified Ad Rates
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FEBRUARY 27, 2004

# Tigers begin season with loss

*Charlotte holds on for important road win as Clemson rally falls short.*

**ROY WELSH**  
Sports Editor

On Tuesday afternoon at Tiger Field, the Clemson men's baseball team lost the first game of their season to UNC Charlotte by a score of 5-4. The Tigers fell to 0-1 on the season, while the 49ers gained a much needed victory, improving their record to 2-3 on the year.

Clemson, who trailed 5-3 heading into the bottom of the ninth inning, made the game interesting when senior Ryan Hub scored off a wild pitch to cut the game to 5-4. The Tigers stood in good position with runners on the corners and Brad McCann at the plate, who was 4-4 at the time. But McCann grounded into a double play and UNC Charlotte walked away with the victory.

McCann provided Clemson a jolt throughout the entire contest. With the game scoreless in the bottom of the first inning, McCann belted a home run to center field to give the Tigers the 1-0 lead. Finishing 4-5, McCann started right where folks around Tiger Town would want him to, and if he picked up where he left off on Tuesday, he could surely live up to his hype as a preseason All-American.

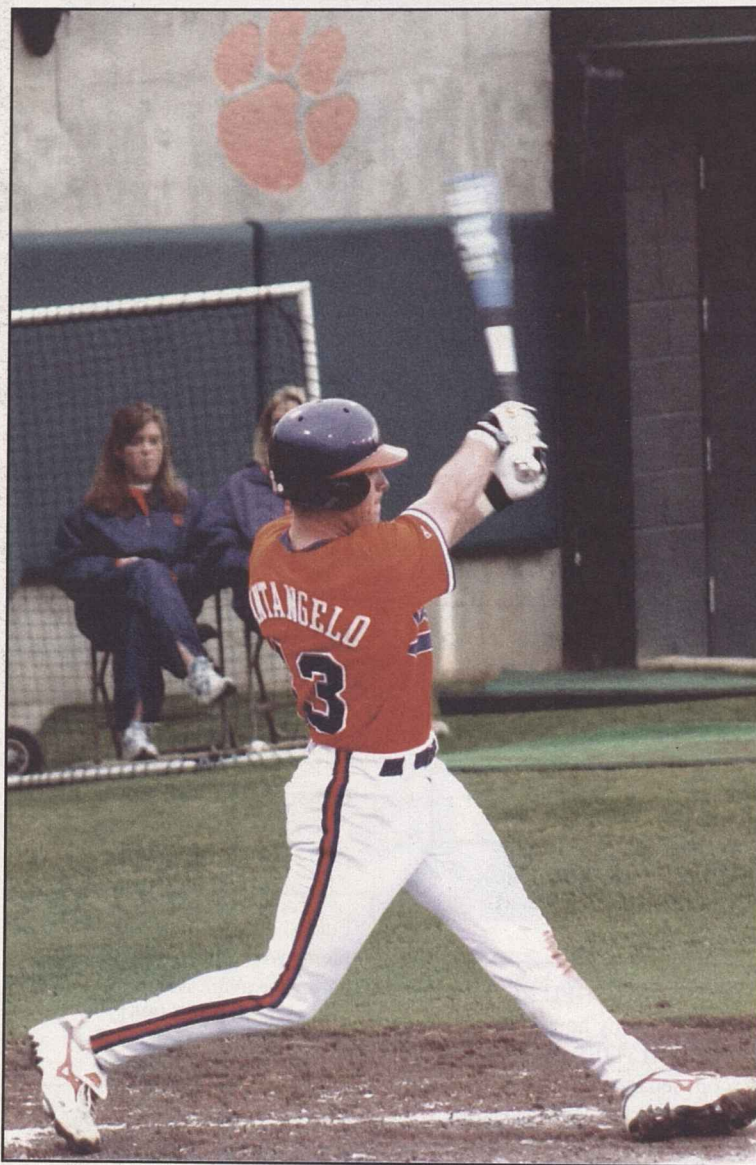
The 49ers took the lead in the third inning, when they managed to score three runs off Clemson's Steven Jackson, a senior. UNC Charlotte's Adam Willard got things rolling for his club with an RBI single to center

field, scoring teammate Jamie Rusco. Brian Scafe then doubled to right field to drive in two runs and the 49ers had a league they would not relinquish.

UNC Charlotte added an insurance run in the top of the seventh inning and brought their lead to 4-1. Randall Poplin's RBI single to right field plated Adam Floyd from second base to extend the 49ers' lead. Clemson's Stephen Faris, a freshman right-handed pitcher, allowed the one earned run in the seventh.

Clemson head coach Jack Leggett shuffled pitchers in and out throughout the entire contest in an attempt to help get as many pitchers as many innings as possible. While the strategy may have kept particular pitchers from finding a rhythm on Tuesday, Clemson has another 55 games to help develop their staff and right now, wins are not what seem to be urgent. The Tigers have a chance to have a strong staff this spring and summer, and if Leggett can find the mix that works the way he hopes, Clemson could be in good shape heading into the meat of their schedule.

There were a few early bright spots for Clemson. Tony Sipp, a junior college transfer from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, looked impressive in his first start for the Tigers. While only 1-4 at the plate on the afternoon, Sipp did manage to pick up one RBI. With the 49ers threatening in the top of the second inning, Sipp nailed out Charlotte's Kris Rochelle as he was trying to score from second base. He was able to show off some good speed in the outfield as well, which could prove valuable as the season drags along.



EMILY CAGGIANO photo editor

**SWINGIN':** Junior catcher Lou Santangelo swings for the fences on Tuesday against UNC-Charlotte. The Tigers lost 5-4 to the 49ers.

## Track teams fare well at ACC Championships

*Men finish second in the conference, women finish third.*

**DANIEL BLACKMON**  
Staff Writer

The men's and women's track teams recently competed in the ACC Indoor Track and Field Championships, which was held in Clemson. Both the men's and women's teams had strong showings collectively as a team and in several individual accomplishments. Florida State's men took home first place, with the Tigers finishing second. North Carolina claimed the women's title. Georgia Tech finished second and Clemson finished third.

Individually for the Tigers, sophomore Tye Hill won the 60-meter-dash, with a time of 6.73 seconds. This was the seventh consecutive title for the Tigers in this event, which they have never lost since its inception into the championships in 1998. Fellow Tigers Ronald Richards and Airese Currie, both juniors, finished second and third in the 60, with times of 6.82 and 6.86 respectively. Hill and Currie are both members of the football team as well.

Richards earned his second All-ACC honor with a second place in the 200-meter-dash with a time of 21.54. Hill earned all-conference in this event as well, finishing third with a time of 21.61. Currie also scored for the Tigers, earning seventh place in the event with a time of 22.26.

Sophomore Roy Cheney finished third in the 60 hurdles with a time of 7.93, which was a seasonbest and provisional qualifying time. Freshman



EMILY CAGGIANO photo editor

**TURNING THE CORNER:** Junior distance runner Derrick Wyatt competes in the 3000 meter race at the ACC Championship meet on Saturday.

Lydell Perry and senior Rick Hill were fifth and seventh in the event, which was good enough to score points for the Tigers. Junior Derrick Wyatt added to the Clemson cause by running a season best time of 8:27.27 in the 3000 meters. Rounding out the track event scoring for the Tigers was the 1600 relay team of Perry, Richards, Marquis Andrews and

Cheney which posted a time of 3:16.50 that earned them third place.

Freshman Adam Linkenauer, competing in his first conference championship, won the ACC high jump title by posting a personal best and provisional qualifying mark of 7'2.25." Fellow freshman Ryan Koontz and senior

SEE **TRACK**, PAGE B3

## Ladies host third-ranked Blue Devils

*Clemson women look for huge upset as postseason approaches.*

**ZACK MAULDIN**  
Sports Layout Editor

The Clemson Lady Tigers will travel to Durham, N.C., tonight to face the No. 3 Duke Blue Devils. The Lady Devils won the first contest between the two teams this season at Littlejohn Coliseum, 78-60, on Feb. 2.

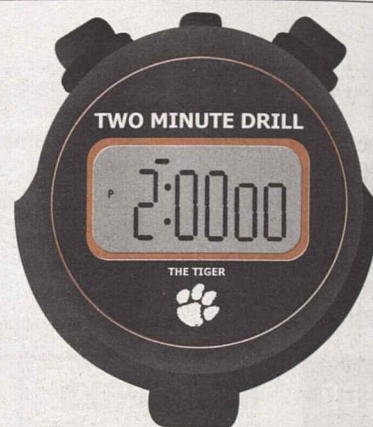
That loss was the second in a five-game skid for the Tigers, following a loss at Maryland and preceding defeats at home versus North Carolina and at Florida State and N.C. State.

Clemson has since rebounded and is on a two-game win streak, with a 59-47 win over Georgia Tech and an easy 72-55 victory at Wake Forest.

Only two days after beating Clemson earlier this season, Duke's awe inspiring 51-game Atlantic Coast Conference winning streak screeched to a halt with an 80-74 loss to Florida State at Leon County Civic Center in Tallahassee. Even so, the Blue Devils locked up the ACC regular season championship with a 72-59 win at Maryland on Sunday.

In the first Clemson-Duke game this season, Devil senior Alana Beard scored 26 points to lead her team to victory. Beard is this week's conference player of the week for the second consecutive week. It is the 17th time in her illustrious Duke career that she has held the title and the fifth this season. She is second in the Atlantic

SEE **DUKE**, PAGE B4



### TIGER SCHEDULE

#### SATURDAY 2/28

Men's Tennis vs. South Alabama, Southern @ Mobile, Ala. - All Day

Men's Basketball vs. Georgia Tech - 12 p.m.

Baseball @ Greenville, N.C. Keith LeClair Invitational,

Men's & Women's Track - Host Clemson Classic - All Day

Men's Swimming & Diving - Charlottesville, Va., ACC Championships, All Day

Women's Swimming & Diving @ Athens, Ga., Last Chance Meet, All Day

#### SUNDAY 2/29

Women's Tennis @ South Alabama, 11 a.m.

Baseball @ Greenville, N.C. 12:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Maryland, 2 p.m.

### SPORTS SHORTS

Baltimore Ravens running back Jamal Lewis, who owns the second-highest single season rushing total in NFL history, was indicted Wednesday on federal drug charges. Lewis is charged with conspiring to possess and distribute five kilograms of cocaine and using a cell phone in the commission of the first count.

Southern Cal sophomore Mike Williams declared himself eligible for the April NFL draft on Wednesday, becoming the first sophomore to enter the draft since the Maurice Clarett court ruling.

The NBA fined Seattle guard Ray Allen, last season's NBA Sportsmanship Award winner, \$10,000 on Wednesday for speaking out against officiating following the Supersonics' loss on Saturday at Golden State.

French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero was upset in the first round of the Open 13 Tournament in Marseille, France. Ferrero, the No. 2 player in the world, was eliminated by No. 55 Gregory Carraz in three sets.

The Washington Redskins and the Denver Broncos have agreed in principal to a trade that would send running back Clinton Portis to Washington for corner Champ Bailey and a second-round draft pick in this year's NFL draft.

On Wednesday, former Major League outfielder Darryl Strawberry left his position as player development instructor with the New York Yankees. Strawberry has stated that he plans to pursue a career in the ministry. Strawberry has struggled for years with cocaine addiction.



# Maryland completes season sweep of Tigers

*Tigers manage to hang around before Terrapins put them away.*

**DANIEL BLACKMON**  
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team recently dropped a tough road game to the Maryland Terrapins, 70-49. The loss dropped the last place Tigers to 10-15 overall, 3-11 in the conference. The Terrapins improved to 14-10 overall and 5-8 in the conference. This win was especially beneficial for Maryland, who is on the bubble as to whether or not they will receive a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Maryland native Sharrod Ford continued his stellar play for the Tigers. The junior forward led the team with 14 points, six rebounds and four blocked shots. Ford now has 103 career blocked shots, which ranks him seventh all-time in Clemson history. He is also 24th in the nation in blocked shots, averaging 2.3 per game.

Junior forward Olu Babolola contributed nine points and four rebounds, while sophomore guard Shawan Robinson added seven points and three rebounds. Freshman point guard Vernon Hamilton also continued his improvement by scoring

four points, snagging four rebounds and dishing out three assists without committing a turnover. He has now played two games in a row without a turnover.

The Terps hit the Tigers with several weapons, most of which were in their backcourt, as the Maryland guards lit up the Tigers. Sophomore guard John Gilchrist was the highest scoring of four Terrapins who reached double-digits in points, with 19. He also did further damage against the Tigers with six assists and five steals. Freshman guard D.J. Strawberry made the most of his first collegiate start by scoring 15 points. Another guard, sophomore Chris McCrary, came off the bench to score 14 points, as well. 6'9" senior Jamar Smith added 10 points and seven rebounds.

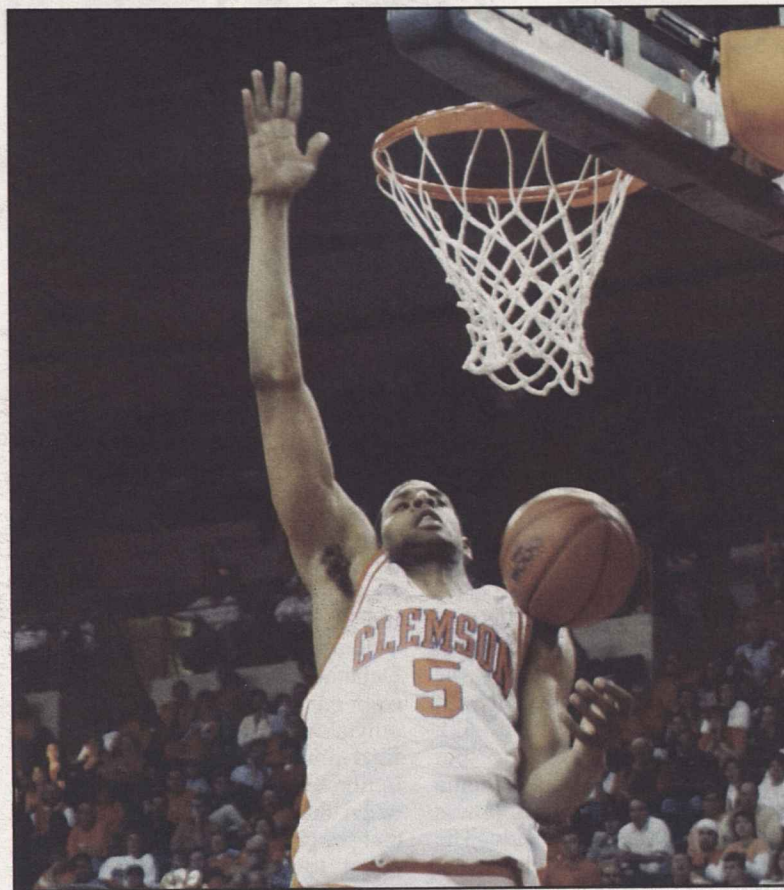
Clemson managed to hit on only 31.4 percent of their shots from the field, which was a season-worst. Maryland, however, shot 52 percent, including an impressive 61 percent in the second half. That was the highest field goal percentage the Tigers had given up this year. They were 50 percent from beyond the arc, as well. To make matters worse, the Terrapins were able to turn 22 Tiger turnovers into 17 points. Clemson did shoot 70 percent from the foul line as opposed

to only 50 percent by Maryland.

Maryland was virtually in control of this game from the tip-off as there was only one lead change and two instances where the score was tied. They enjoyed a 24-7 lead at one point in the first half and were able to take full advantage of the cold-shooting Tigers, who shot only 25 percent from the field in the first half. Clemson was facing a 17-point deficit for much of the first half until a 6-0 run over the last two minutes narrowed the lead to 32-21 at halftime.

The second half saw more torrid shooting by the Terps. Gilchrist scored 11 of his 19 in the second, including two three-pointers. They enjoyed a 16-point lead, 52-36, off of a three-pointer by McCrary. Clemson was able to trim that lead to 53-44 after Ford hit two free throws with 6:19 left to play. Maryland then put the game away with a 14-0 run to end the game.

The Tigers have two more games left before the ACC Tournament begins in Greensboro, N.C. on March 11. The Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets will travel to Clemson on Saturday for the Tigers' final home game of the season. The final regular season game will be against the Tar Heels of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, N.C. on March 2.



**WITH AUTHORITY:** Center Sharrod Ford returns to Earth after rising above the rim for a dunk in recent action.

## From the PRESSBOX

When I headed out to Tiger Field on Tuesday afternoon to watch Clemson kick off another season and another drive towards Omaha, Neb., memories and nostalgia flooded back to me. After I had a chance to sit down and watch the Tigers take the diamond, I soaked it all in, every last bit of the atmosphere. I again realized why baseball is, and will always be, America's game.

College football is the sport I look forward to the most. There is no question about it. My world seems to stop when I head to Death Valley on a Saturday in the fall, and such are the feelings of many college students in the South.

Baseball is of a different nature. There is not another game that connects generations to generations, fathers to sons (or mothers to daughters for that matter), like baseball. I can have a conversation with any American baseball fan, old or young, from any part of the country, and have an instant connection.

This game is one that requires patience. College teams play 56 games in a season and professional teams play 162. Baseball can move slowly, leading some to say that it is simply a boring sport. But baseball is not boring. The patience that baseball requires is exactly why it is not boring. After a team plays 162 games in a season, they can watch their entire season come down to one play. These type of clutch moments are the ones that any sports fan knows, the classic moments that are burned into our minds. These moments make for a game of the highest of highs and the lowest of lows and it brings familiar names to mind: Babe Ruth, Bobby Thomson, Reggie Jackson, Carlton Fisk, Bill Buckner, Francisco Cabrera, Joe Carter, Aaron Boone and the list goes on from there.

Tell anyone who was in Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium back on an October night in 1992 that baseball is boring. Tell the generations of Boston fans on Yawkey Way, the ones who have certainly paid their dues in heart-break, that baseball is boring.

Tell the generations of New York Yankees fans, folks who grew up with the likes of Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle or Thurman Munson and Willie Randolph that baseball is boring. If one has experienced this type of excitement, associating boredom with baseball would seem like pure idiocy.

When players compete for such a long length of time and fans watch for such a long length a time, seasons can carry a lot of emotion. When these seasons build up over the years, one will find close-knit communities of baseball fans that seem to live and die with the successes and failures of their respective clubs. These community atmospheres develop into cultures that will grab hold of entire cities as summer turns to fall.

People from around the country connect their teams to their cities' respective cultures and histories. Those who hail from Chicago's south side will root for the Cubs and pass their support of the Cubs down

to their children like any other inborn trait. And characteristics of fans never seem to vanish. Chicago Cubs fans always seem to stay just as fun-loving and stubbornly loyal as the years go by. Boston fans always have their anxious optimism and New York fans always have an air of confidence that their club will get it done when it matters the most. St. Louis fans always come out to the ballpark, whether their team is in the thick of the pennant race or not. Clemson baseball has a culture of its own as well, with alumni, locals, fathers and sons watching in the stands and beer drinking college students and a few locals watching from the outfield.

As the season progresses, I will become more emotionally connected to Clemson baseball, the New York Yankees and the Atlanta Braves (sue me, I pull for a team in each league). I am looking forward to it all.

**Roy Welsh** is a sophomore majoring in secondary education. E-mail comments to [sports@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:sports@TheTigerNews.com).



**ROY WELSH**  
Sports Editor

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# Golfers lose on tourney's last hole

*Hendrix wins individual honors, but team falls just short on decisive finish.*

**MIKE GILL**  
Staff Writer

The Clemson golf team finished in 2nd place behind number one ranked Florida in this week's Westin Rio Mar Puerto Rico Collegiate Championship. The tournament was played on the Rio Mar Country Club's River Course and was played from Sunday to Tuesday. The tournament is widely considered to be one of the most competitive events in college golf.

Tiger senior Matt Hendrix, a third team All-American in 2003, won the individual title at the tournament. Hendrix finished with a 9-under total of 204 (70-67-67). That was good enough to put him one shot ahead of Oklahoma State freshman Tyler Leon. It was Hendrix's first individual title. The victory by Hendrix was bittersweet however as Matt double-bogeyed the 18th hole to take Clemson out of contention for the team title.

Following the tournament Hendrix commented, "This is definitely more bitter than sweet ... It's hard to feel good about it. The bottom line is I didn't finish the way I should have. It's my first college win, but right now I really can't enjoy it. I would have rather had finished 20th if it meant the team won." That is exactly the selfless attitude the Tigers will need this season if they are going to repeat as National Champions.

The Tigers led after the first round of the tournament with a 7-under par team score of 281. The Tigers were led on that day by junior Jack Ferguson who fired an impressive 5-under par score of 67. Hendrix and Gregg Jones opened the tournament with a pair of 2-under par 70s. Brent Delahoussaye

and Brian Duncan both shot 2-over-par rounds of 74 in the opening round. The Tigers also scored the best in Tuesday's final round by firing a 2-under par score of 286.

However, it was the middle day of the tournament that the team will look back at and wonder what may have been. On that day the Tigers recorded a 1-over par score of 289 and were overtaken in the standings by Oklahoma, whom Clemson eventually soared past on the final day, and Florida. The only Clemson golfer under par on the second day was Hendrix, who finished the day with a 5-under par 67. Ferguson followed his opening round 67 with an even-par round of 72.

Jones, Duncan, and Brent Delahoussaye shot a combined 13-over par on the day. Duncan was only able to play 5 holes during the final round of the tournament due to illness. Thankfully for the Tigers under the college golf scoring format only four individual scores count towards the overall team score on a given day. Therefore, while the loss of Duncan affected the team it did not put them out of contention.

Overall, the Tigers put in a great showing in the Puerto Rico Classic. While they did not win the event they did improve on their 4th place finish in the North Florida Collegiate Championship. The Tigers also showed the golf world that they are well prepared to try and defend their 2003 National Championship.

This was also a fantastic event for Matt Hendrix, who as it was said before won his first individual tournament. This event will hopefully help lead the Tigers to bigger and better things as the season continues. The Tigers will next be in action on the weekend of March 13th. They will be traveling to Nevada to play in the Las Vegas Intercollegiate Championship.

## TRACK FROM PAGE B1



**KICKING:** Jennifer Barton puts it into high gear in the 3000 meters in last weekend's ACC Championships. Barton finished 34th in the conference.

Ben Daniels cleared 6'9," earning them fifth and sixth, respectively.

Jason Bell, a freshman, led the Tigers in the triple jump by recording a season-best mark of 49'0.25". Junior Brit Barrow also had a strong showing in the triple jump, recording a season-best 48'3.5" which placed him eighth.

Rick Hill won the first-ever ACC heptathlon which earned him an automatic qualification for the NCAA championships by

scoring 5,528 points. Sophomore Brent Hobbs garnered All-ACC accolades by finishing second to Hill in the heptathlon and also provisionally qualified with 5,393 points. Senior Ryan Hunter also provisionally qualified by earning 5,179 points and finishing in fourth place.

Sophomore Ryan Koontz rounded out the heptathlon scoring for the Tigers by finishing in sixth place with 5,107.

Sophomore Derek Gibson also aided to the Clemson point scoring by winning the ACC championship in the shot put, which also earned him All-ACC honors. Junior George Kitchens also earned all-conference accolades in the long jump.

On the women's side, the 1600 relay team and juniors Gisele Oliveira and Silja Ulfarsdottir led the way. Ulfarsdottir was the ACC champion in the 200m by achieving a season-best and provisional qualifying time of 23.96. She also posted a season-best and provisional qualifying time in the 400m with 54.01.

Juniors Randi Hinton and Shakir Rutherford also scored in the 400m with times of 55.93 and 57.09. Freshman Jessica Cousins scored points for the Tigers by finishing seventh in the 60m with a time of 7.65. She finished fourth in the 200m, as well with a time of 24.23.

Freshman Patrice McMillan finished sixth in the 800m with a time of 2:14.78. Another freshman, Jelyn Quick, contributed more points for the Lady Tigers by finishing sixth in the 60m hurdles with a time of 8.55.

The 1600 relay team of Hinton, Rutherford, Christina Smith and Ulfarsdottir won the ACC championship with a provisional qualifying time of 3:41.08.

Junior Gisele Oliveira captured two ACC titles by winning the triple jump with a personal-best mark of 44'1.5."

Freshman Michelle Rogers scored the triple jump as well for the Tigers with a seventh place finish. Sara Young, a freshman, finished fifth in the pole vault and fellow freshman Della Clark earned All-ACC honors by finishing third in the weight throw with a season-best toss of 57'7". Sophomore Krystal Woods finished sixth in that event with a 54'7.5" throw.

Senior Lauren Nicholson also earned All-ACC honors by winning the championship in the pentathlon.

### DO YOU KNOW THE SIGNS OF ALCOHOL POISONING?



- ❖ Confusion, stupor, coma, or person cannot be roused
- ❖ Vomiting
- ❖ Seizures
- ❖ Slowed or irregular breathing
- ❖ Low body temperature, bluish skin, paleness

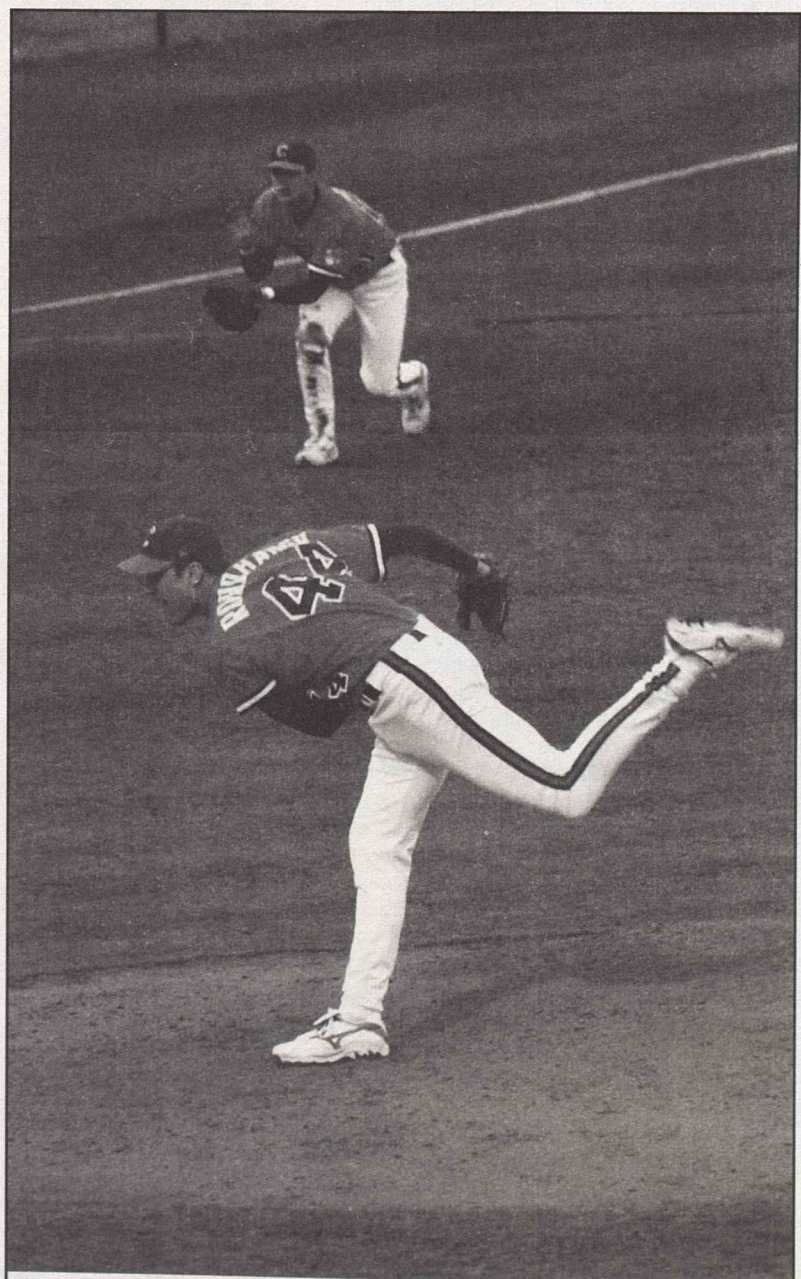
### WHAT YOU SHOULD AND SHOULDN'T DO

- ❖ DO know the signs and symptoms
- ❖ DO get help immediately - Call 911 or the campus police and your RA
- ❖ DO roll the person on his or her side to prevent choking
- ❖ DO ensure that airways are clear of vomit
- ❖ DO gather as much info as possible about how much alcohol the person may have consumed
- ❖ DON'T put the person in a cold shower
- ❖ DON'T allow the person to sleep it off - sleeping is very different than being passed out!!
- ❖ DON'T try to exercise the person
- ❖ DON'T worry about getting the person into trouble - saving a life is much more important!!

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# Swimming and diving teams compete in NCAA's

*Tennis team loses a close match to Georgia; Swimming teams keep busy.*

## STAFF REPORTS

### Men's Tennis

The No. 26 Clemson Men's Tennis Team dropped a 4-3 decision to the 24th-ranked Georgia Bulldogs on Wednesday afternoon. The matches were played on the Lindsey Hopkins Courts after being moved inside due to winter weather.

Clemson's number one doubles pair of Nathan Thompson and Jarmaine Jenkins fell to the fifth-ranked pair of Bo Hodge and John Isner 8-5 at flight one. Clemson found victory in the number two and three matches as John Boetsch and Clement Reix defeated Strahinja Bobusic and Ricardo Gonzalez 8-2 at the number two position, while Clemson's number two Ryan Young and Goran Sterijovski beat out the tandem of Matias Ormaza and Matic Omerzel in a close match that ended 9-7, clinching the doubles point for Clemson.

Thompson fell to fourth-ranked Bo Hodge 6-1, 6-4 in the number one singles match. Georgia also won matches number two and three as Ormaza beat out Goran

Sterijovski 6-4, 6-4, and Isner defeated Jarmaine Jenkins 6-7(3), 6-2, 6-2.

Boetsch outlasted Bobusic in the number three singles match 3-6, 6-3, 6-1, and Robbye Poole continued his strong play by downing Gonzalez 6-4, 6-4 at number six singles. Omerzel clinched the match for Georgia as he defeated Young in the number five singles match 6-4, 6-4.

With the loss, Clemson falls to 13-3 on the season. The Tigers return to action this weekend as they travel to Mobile, Ala. to face South Alabama and Southern on Saturday.

### Men's Swimming and Diving

The Clemson men's swimming and diving team will travel to Charlottesville, Va. on Wednesday to begin competition at the 2004 ACC Men's Swimming & Diving Championships. The conference meet will be held on Wednesday-Saturday at the UVA Aquatic and Fitness Center on Virginia's campus. The preliminary rounds will be held at 11:00 a.m. with finals commencing at 7:00 p.m. each night.

The Tigers have posted a 13-2-1 overall record and a 4-1-1 mark in the ACC this season. The 13 dual victories are the most wins ever recorded by a Clemson men's swimming and diving team, dating

back to the program's inception in 1953.

So far this season the Tigers have been led in swimming by seniors Ryan Cassella, Mark Henly, Rob Kummer and Drew Scheerhorn. Cassella has been a member of the Tigers' winning 400 medley relay team nine times this season and has won the 200 three times

the first-place 400 medley relay team seven times and has finished first in the 200 back eight times this season. He was named National Swimmer of the Week once and ACC Swimmer of the Week twice during the season. At the 2003 ACC Championships, the Tigers finished in sixth place with 339 points. Virginia won the meet with 780 points, followed by Florida State and North Carolina in second and third with 567 and 555.5 points, respectively. Mark Henly was the ACC Champion in the 200 back in 2003, recording a time of 1:45.16 in the event.

Stokes also averages 3.8 assists per game to lead the Tigers and is second in blocks with 24. Senior Julie Aderhold is second on the team in scoring with 9.6 points per game, followed by senior Maggie Slosser with 9.2 per game. Sophomore Khaili Sanders has blocked 30 shots this season and leads the Clemson team in the category. The Duke Blue Devils and Clemson Tigers are scheduled to tip-off at 7 p.m. tonight at Cameron Indoor Stadium. It will be Senior Day for the Lady Devils, so an intense match up can be expected.

### Women's Swimming and Diving

The Clemson women's swimming and diving team finished in fifth place at the 2004 ACC Women's Swimming & Diving Championships, scoring 294.50 points overall in the meet that was held in Charlottesville, Va. On Saturday, the final day of competition, Janell Brodrick and Kim Cober posted sixth-place finishes in the 200 fly and the 1650 free, respectively, to lead the Tigers.

Virginia won the ACC Championship, scoring 675 points overall, while North Carolina finished second with 623.50 points. Florida State took third place (611) and Maryland placed fourth (506) at the conference meet. The Tigers posted 294.50 points for fifth place, followed by Georgia Tech in sixth with 282 points. Duke and N.C. State finished seventh and eighth with 262 and 229 points, respectively. Cober took sixth place to lead the Tigers in the 1650 free with a time of 16:39.56. Kim Routh finished in 12th place (16:51.68), while Nichole Carlton placed 14th overall (16:57.75).

Brodrick recorded a time of 2:02.30 in the 200 fly for a sixth-place

finish in the event. Brodrick's time was a Clemson season-best mark in the 200 fly.

Kate Walker placed eighth in the championship finals of the 200 back with a time of 2:04.93. Walker posted a season-fastest time of 2:02.59 in the preliminary round to reach Saturday night's final. Lindsey Kroeger finished 11th in the consolation finals of the event with a time of 2:03.13.

Four Tigers placed in the consolation finals of the 200 breast. Ashley Shafer took ninth place with a career-best time of 2:19.08, while Caitlin Bissell posted a personal-best time of 2:19.86 for an 11th-place finish. Aurelie Gresset and Sarah Cefalu took 13th and 16th place in the event with times of 2:22.56 and 2:23.57, respectively.

In the 100 free, Christine Anseeuw finished in a tie for 10th place in the consolation finals, posting a time of 51.67. Amanda Vaughan placed 12th overall (51.85) and Courtney Humes was 18th (52.63) in the event for Clemson.

In the 400 free relay, the Tigers' team of Vaughan, Kallie Deters, Nicole Kroeger and Anseeuw placed fourth with a season-fastest time of 3:26.20.

The Clemson women's swimming and diving team will return to action on Saturday, Feb. 28 at a Last Chance Meet to be held in Athens, Ga.

## DUKE

FROM PAGE B1

Coast Conference in career scoring behind former Clemson star Barbara Kennedy. Last season, Beard was the Victor Award winner for player of the year, and is the leading contender for National Player of the Year awards this season.

Beard is averaging 20.4 points per game this season. She also leads the team defensively with 34 blocks and 62 steals. Beard also is second on the team in assists with a total of 94 on the year.

The Devils rebound very uniformly as a team, as six players average between 4.6 and 6.5 boards per game.

Iciss Tillis, one of the most versatile players in the nation, leads the team with 6.5 rebounds per game. Tillis is third on the team in scoring with 12 points per game. Monique Currie is second on the team in both scoring with 12.2 points and rebounding with 6.4 per game.

Lindsey Harding is the team's most significant passer and has totaled 125 assists this season.

Senior Lakeia Stokes led the Tigers with 18 points versus Duke on Groundhog Day. Stokes is the season leader in points and rebounds per game for Clemson with 16.9 and 7.2, respectively.

Stokes also averages 3.8 assists per game to lead the Tigers and is second in blocks with 24.

Senior Julie Aderhold is second on the team in scoring with 9.6 points per game, followed by senior Maggie Slosser with 9.2 per game. Sophomore Khaili Sanders has blocked 30 shots this season and leads the Clemson team in the category.

The Duke Blue Devils and Clemson Tigers are scheduled to tip-off at 7 p.m. tonight at Cameron Indoor Stadium. It will be Senior Day for the Lady Devils, so an intense match up can be expected.

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# Billet breaks Tigers' hearts

After controlling the game's pace, Clemson allows solid effort to slip away.

**CHASE ELDRIDGE**  
Assistant Sports Editor

Coach Oliver Purnell and his team have experienced nearly every possible emotion this season as they have been on a rough ride. Last Saturday at Littlejohn Coliseum, the Tigers felt an emotion that has not been felt all season. Heartbreak.

Virginia entered Clemson on Saturday afternoon looking to improve upon a disappointing season. Clemson led for most of the way, but allowed Virginia to hang in the game and wound up losing 58-55. Virginia senior Todd Billet scored 21 points, including a decisive three-point goal with just 16 seconds left.

Despite a valiant effort led by junior small forward Olu Babalola, the Tigers allowed yet another win slip through their grasp. Babalola led the Tigers with 19 points, nine rebounds and three assists. "I thought Olu Babalola played well for us," said Purnell. "He gave us tremendous energy. He ignited us in the second half when we got behind."

Clemson out-rebounded Virginia 47-31, including a season high 24 offensive rebounds. Clemson's Achilles' heel was once again poor shooting, as the Tigers shot just 34

percent from the field, hitting just 20-59 shots.

Clemson once again held the opposition to fewer than 40 percent shooting as Virginia made just 22-56 shots from the field, good for just 39.3 percent.

Clemson blocked an impressive eight shots on defense to go along with an all-around stifling defensive effort.

Clemson went on an 11-3 run over the last seven minutes of the first half to take a 28-20 lead at the break. Virginia opened the second half with a 14-2 run to take a four point lead.

Babalola finally broke the Cavs' streak with eight straight points and helped bring the Tigers to within 44-43 with seven minutes left. Clemson then tied the score at 48 on a three-point goal by guard Chey Christie with 4:32 remaining. The Tigers took a 52-50 lead with a Shawan Robinson layup.

Clemson led 55-53 with 27.6 seconds left when the ever-deadly Billet got the ball. Billet used a screen to get open and hit a three-point goal with 16 seconds left to give Virginia a 56-55 lead. On the next Tiger possession, Christie turned it over just past the half-court line and gave Billet a wide open layup that gave the Cavs a three-point lead with just two seconds to play on the clock. Clemson had one last chance to tie the game but threw the ball out of bounds to end the game.



**STOLEN:** Junior forward Olu Babalola starts a fast break in Saturday's loss to Virginia at Littlejohn Coliseum. Babalola led the Tigers with 19 points.

## From Spain to Illinois

**SEAN OSTRUSZKA**  
Northern Star  
(Northern Illinois U.)

(U-WIRE) — For Northern Illinois University tennis player Willy Gali, the adjustments from the clay courts of Barcelona, Spain, to the hard courts in America were rough.

"In Spain, the clay courts make the game much slower," said Gali, the team's No. 1 singles player. "Here the game is so much faster. You need to be much more aggressive."

When Gali decided to follow his friend, Jacob Martin, to TCU two years ago to play tennis, he said he never thought he would eventually leave the heat of Texas for the cold winters of DeKalb, Ill.

"I liked it a lot (at TCU)," Gali said. "Especially the weather was very nice."

In fact, if it weren't for TCU not giving Gali a full scholarship, he said, he would still be there. As it turns out, he came to NIU instead.

Yet, before he began his tennis world tour, Willy Gali started playing tennis in Barcelona at age 5 after his older brother, Alex, began playing.

"You know your older brother is like your idol, so I started to play tennis, and I liked it," Willy Gali said.

Along with his twin brother, Eduard, Willy Gali slowly picked up the game. He played about once a week, but started to play it more often when he got older.

By the time he was 16 years old, he was practicing at least two times a day, constantly traveling and playing tournaments every week. This certainly paid off as time passed.

Tennis eventually led him to TCU, where he enjoyed his time but didn't make the lineup until the end of the season, when he played in the No. 6 spot.

Now Gali has settled in DeKalb where he has adapted to the No. 1 spot. He hasn't lost in 2004 match play, where he is 6-0. He is 9-2 in tournament play and 15-2 overall.

"We are extremely happy to have him," first-year NIU head coach Pontus Hiort said. "Since day one, he has been absolutely solid."

His doubles partner, Aaron Forsberg, said he is one of the most solid and straightforward guys on the team when it comes to tennis.

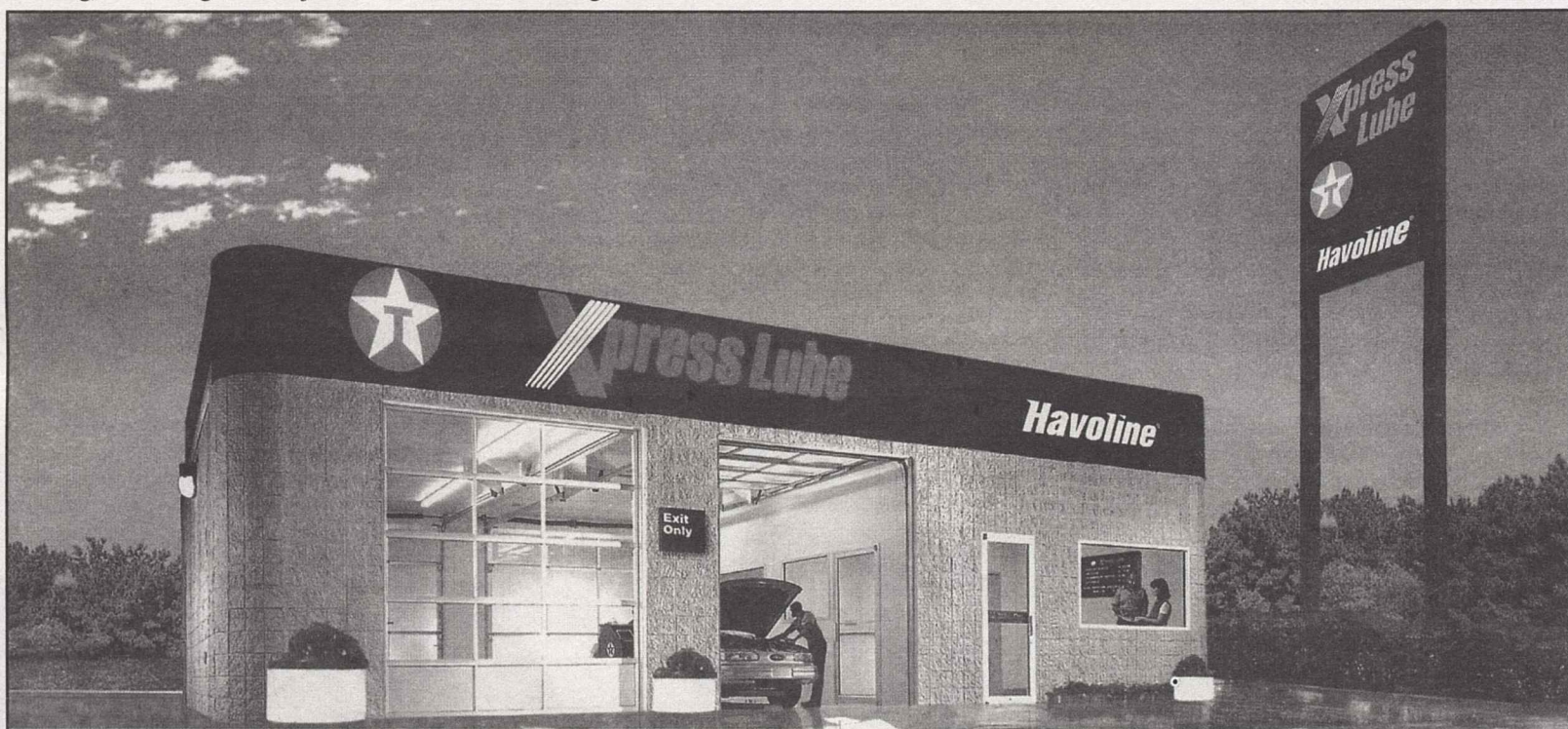
But when he's not competing, Gali shows off a bit of a different side, relaxing and joking around with his teammates.

"We (teammates) are always trying to Americanize him," Forsberg said. "We always give him a hard time about soccer since he likes it so much, and he jokes with us about American sports. It really makes for a lot of fun."

Joking around with his teammates is not the only thing Gali does, however. Gali has 3.91 grade point average — the highest on the men's tennis team, which also has the overall highest GPA for any NIU athletics team. That's not bad for an athlete as strong as Gali.

Gali is focused on more than studying this semester. He is preparing himself for the rest of the season and trying to get back to the MAC finals, where NIU came up short against Ball State in the finals last year.

"I gave up the winning point last year," Gali said. "It gives me motivation to work harder this semester and do better."



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# Lady Tigers take big victory in Winston-Salem

*Clemson ladies gain crucial conference road victory to improve NCAA hopes.*

**TONY BROERING**  
Staff Writer

The Clemson Lady Tigers basketball team got a big road win last weekend, as they defeated the Wake Forest Demon Deacons on Sunday afternoon in Winston-Salem, N.C. Leading the Lady Tigers was Julie Aderhold, who had 19 points, and Lakeia Stokes, who contributed 17 points in the 72-55 win.

Also coming up big for the Lady Tigers was Khaili Sanders, who had her second career double-double game with double digits in both scoring and rebounding. She had 12 points to go along with a career-high 12 rebounds for the Lady Tigers.

This big road win improves Clemson to 17-8 overall, and evens their mark in ACC play to 7-7 with two regular season contests still to play. Wake Forest fell to 10-15 overall, and 3-11 in league play with the loss. The win puts the Lady Tigers in good position to make the NCAA Tournament, coming out of the tough ACC with a near .500 record.

Aderhold had a superb shooting night for the Lady Tigers, connecting on eight of 13 shots from the field including three of six from beyond the arc. She also added three rebounds and an assist.

Stokes continues to lead the Lady Tigers, shooting 5-13 field goals and 6-8 from the line to go along with four assists and five rebounds. Her 17 points made it the 21st time this season that she has scored in double figures.

Coming off the bench for the Lady Tigers and playing a large role was Carrie Whitehurst, younger sister of star quarterback Charlie Whitehurst. Whitehurst the younger added 12 points in the win, to go along with three rebounds and two assists.

Leading the way for the Lady Deacons was Tonia Brown, who had 11 points, four rebounds, and four assists. Erin Ferrell was the only other double-digit scorer for the Lady Demon Deacons as she had 10 points.

The game stayed close for the first 15 minutes of the game, as

the lead changed hands several times. Clemson took the lead for good at 19-17 with 5:07 to go in the first half on an Aderhold three-point basket.

Over the final five minutes of the half, the Lady Tigers went on a 10-2 run to extend the lead to ten with a 29-19 halftime lead.

The Lady Tigers maintained their lead throughout the second half. The lead was 40-33 with 12 minutes to go in the game when the Tigers went on a 20-10 run that stretched the lead to 60-43 with 5:40 left in the game. Leading the way during the rally was Aderhold, who had seven points during the stretch.

The Lady Tigers won the ever-important battle of the boards, as they outrebounded the Lady Demon Deacons 44-33. The team also shot much better from the field than Wake Forest.

The team's strong defense held the Deacs to just 19-61 shooting from the field in the game for a .311 percentage mark. That figure was even lower in the first half, when Wake Forest connected on just seven of 30 shots for .233 figure.

Clemson, on the other hand, shot a solid 26-57 from the field for a .456 mark. The figure included a 16-28 shooting performance in the second half, as they made more than 57 percent of their shots.

The Lady Tigers are back in action tonight, as they travel to Durham, N.C. to take on the powerful Duke Lady Blue Devils.

Duke has been near the top of the rankings in the nation all season and are in first place in the ACC. And, of course, Cameron Indoor Stadium is one of the toughest places to play on the road. After the game with Duke, the Lady Tigers close the regular season as they play host to Maryland this Sunday, February 29.

The Lady Tigers will then head into the ACC Tournament hoping for a win, and if not, an NCAA bid in the process. After starting off the season in strong fashion, the Tigers seemed to lose a bit of their focus.

If Clemson can regain some of the swagger they had earlier in the year, they could truly be a force to be reckoned with come ACC and hopefully, NCAA tournament time.

# Clemson looks to snap streak in Chapel Hill

*Tigers have lost all 49 meetings with the Tar Heels at UNC.*

**DANIEL TAYLOR**  
Staff Writer

In their final game before the ACC tournament, Oliver Purnell's Clemson Tigers (10-15, 3-11) tip-off against Roy Williams' North Carolina Tarheels (16-8, 6-7) at the Dean Smith Center this Tuesday, March 2.

Winning on the road has seemed impossible for the Tigers all year, but in the Dean Smith Center they are the ultimate underdogs. On this battleground, Clemson has never won, taking a doleful 49 losses in a row. This streak is currently the longest active losing streak on another team's venue.

Only Brown's struggles at Princeton lasted longer in NCAA history, taking 52 games before the Bears were victorious on the road for the first time last year.

A Clemson win in Chapel Hill would give them a positive footnote at the end of the regular season and keep them out of the record books, while UNC will be looking to improve their ranking in the eyes of the March Madness selection committee.

Both teams will have a game to size each other up as Clemson takes on Georgia Tech tomorrow, and North Carolina travels to Raleigh to face N.C. State this Sunday, Feb. 29.

As dejecting as 49-0 seems, the clash between Burnt Orange and Tarheel Blue has gotten more interesting in recent years. The storied North Carolina program has toppled off their pedestal atop the basketball world ever since the retirement of former coach Dean Smith.

As a result, the Tigers have managed to shock the Heels on several occasions in the past few years. In fact, Oliver Purnell's predecessor,

Larry Shyatt, is the only former Clemson coach to have a winning record at home versus UNC, winning 3 of his 5 games hosting the Tarheels. His greatest victory came in 2003, where a struggling Tiger team that was 2-7 in the ACC defeated the Tarheels 80-77 when they were the nation's top-ranked team.

Even in his first year as Clemson's head coach, Oliver Purnell has had success against the Tarheels. He defeated a No. 12 UNC 81-72 back in January.

Although these victories were all in Littlejohn, it is clear that the gap between the two schools has closed somewhat since the glory days of North Carolina basketball.

With its great tradition tarnished, UNC no longer seems insurmountable for Clemson. This year the Tigers have a better chance to sneak out with the upset than most of the previous 49 games. Barring a sweep in the ACC tourney, Clemson's season will be over soon.

Although some say there is nothing left to play for and wait until next year, the Tigers will have no aspirations left except for ending this miserable losing streak.

Meanwhile, the Tarheels are more focused on their position in both the ACC tourney and possibly March Madness than their game versus a Clemson team which is currently last in the conference.

A team with North Carolina's prestige can easily overlook this Clemson team, but the Tarheel faithful would be wrong to think victory is guaranteed.

Nothing would stun the 21,000 UNC fans more than seeing their streak end at 49 games, and watching the few lucky Clemson fans in attendance tear the basketball goals down from the rafters in the Dean Smith Center.

But in order to win at North Carolina, Clemson will have to slow down the top scoring team in the ACC. Coach Roy Williams'

offense moves the ball around to everyone and lets whoever is open take the shot. This strategy seems almost too simple, but proves extremely effective as North Carolina averages 85.5 points per game.

Rashad McCants (19.9 PPG), who leads the ACC in scoring, is the star of the Tarheels, but the Tigers cannot focus on him alone because any given player can have a career night and be the star in Williams' offense.

Every UNC starter, except Raymond Felton (11.1 PPG), averages more points per game than Clemson's most prolific scorer, Sharrod Ford (11.3 PPG). However, the downside to Williams' offense is that it creates a lot of turnovers, averaging 15.8 per game.

Only the Tigers have more team turnovers (19.0 PG) than the Tarheels in the ACC.

Clemson's goal will be to reduce scoring on both sides by playing a slow-paced game. UNC is accustomed to a much higher-paced game — getting assists and scoring in transition after a steal. The Heels' 85.5 PPG swamps the Tigers' 66.6 PPG.

However, if both teams score only 60 or 70 points, the Tarheels will be frustrated by the lack of offense, whereas Clemson will be comfortable with the low scoring affair just did long as their offense does not kill itself with turnovers.

Clemson also needs to play smart until the end of each half, not allowing UNC to score multiple baskets with mere seconds left in the first like Duke did in Durham earlier this year.

If they manage to stay in the game until the final seconds, the Tigers need to make sure that their playmakers, Shawan Robinson and Sharrod Ford are the ones that take the final shot. The Tigers cannot afford another heartbreaker like the game against Virginia. UNC will be motivated to get revenge on the struggling Tigers.

Senior staff elections will be held Wednesday, March 10. Come by the third floor of the Hendrix Center to get an application.

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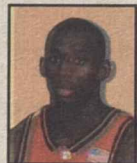
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## IN the PAINT

Tomorrow, the Clemson Tigers will host the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets for Senior Day at Littlejohn Coliseum. Tip-off is slated for high noon. Clemson is coming off two disappointing losses, at the hands of Virginia and Maryland.

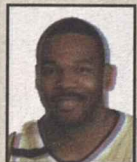
### KEY PLAYERS



Olu Babalola  
Junior

Forward - 6'6"

9.0 PPG, 76.4% FT,  
4.7 rebounds



B.J. Elder  
Georgia Tech

Guard - 6'4"

16.4 PPG, 79.8% FT,  
37% three-pointers

### MATCHUPS

#### OFFENSE



Tech has a quick-paced offense led by B.J. Elder.

#### DEFENSE



Clemson's defense will be inspired on Senior Day.

#### WHO'S HOT



Jackets have all but locked up a bid to the NCAA tourney.

#### WHO WILL WIN?



Last home game in the John for Tiger seniors = upset.

### WILD CARD ♣ ♠ ♥ ♦

If the Tiger defense can slow down the uptempo Georgia Tech offense, Clemson will prevail.

## KEY S.T.A.T.

62.2

Clemson's free throw percentage on the season heading into tomorrow's contest versus Georgia Tech.

### OVERTIME

Georgia Tech forward Clarence Moore, a senior for the Yellow Jackets, has an impressive .446 three-point shooting percentage this season.

The Yellow Jackets feature an impressively quick as well as balanced offense, with five players averaging double-digit points per game this season. B.J. Elder (16.4 PPG), Jarrett Jack (12.6 PPG), Marvin Lewis (11.2 PPG), Will Bynum (10.8 PPG) and Isma'il Muhammad (10.2) have led the Tech offense this season.

Clemson forward Sharrod Ford leads the Tigers in both points per game and rebounds per game, with 11.4 PPG on the year and an average of 6.9 boards per game.

Sharrod Ford also leads the Tigers in blocks, with 58 on the season. Ford's block total is nearly four times that of any other player on the team. The next closest Clemson player in that category is sophomore forward Akin Akingbala, who has 17 on the season.

# FullCourtPRESS

Tip-off: Saturday, 12 p.m.

TV: RSN

Radio: Clemson Sports Network

## Tigers play host to Buzz



EMILY CAGGIANO/photo editor

**NOTHIN' BUT NET:** Clemson guard Vernon Hamilton follows through on a three-point attempt against Virginia last Saturday. The Tigers lost the game, 58-55, and are now guaranteed a spot in the ACC play-in game.

Tomorrow, Clemson seniors suit up against Georgia Tech for their final home game.

**BRIAN GARRISON**  
Staff Writer

The Clemson men's basketball team will play its final home game of the 2003-2004 season Saturday against No. 18 Georgia Tech. Clemson (10-15, 3-11) is coming off a 70-49 beating from the Maryland Terrapins, and Tech (19-8, 6-7) is coming off a 69-79 loss at home against the No. 14 N.C. State Wolfpack. The game could have serious tournament implications for the Jackets.

The Tigers have two remaining regular season games before the ACC tournament. After tomorrow's home finale, the Tigers will head up to Chapel Hill to take on North Carolina, a place at which the Tigers have never won.

Clemson struggled Wednesday in College Park by turning the ball over 22 times, which is just above the Tigers' season average.

The Tigers were beginning to get the turnover situation under control as they only gave the ball up 11 times, a season low, in the win against N.C. State and were still below average with 15 against Wake Forest. The pesky problem that has been the Achilles heel for the Tigers all year came about again Wednesday.

The bright spot (in the Tigers first meeting with the Yellow Jackets) of sorts was that freshmen point guard Vernon Hamilton had no turnovers in 23 minutes of play. Chey Christie had six turnovers, and Ford, Babalola, and Shawan Robinson each had four turnovers for the game.

In the first meeting between the Tigers and the Yellow Jackets, Tech won by the final count of 76-69 in Atlanta, Ga. on the campus of Georgia Tech. Shawan Robinson had a break out game for

the Tigers in the loss with 21 points, as Sharrod Ford added 19 points of his own to go along with 13 rebounds. The problem for the Tigers was B.J. Elder. Despite 19 turnovers and only shooting 35.5 percent from the field, Clemson was still very much in the ballgame. Elder's 36 points was simply too much for the Tigers, as it has been for so many teams this year.

Saturday will be senior night for two Tiger basketball players. Forward Chris Hobbs, from Chapel Hill, N.C., and guard Beau Shay, from Galesburg, Ill., will play their final game at Clemson University.

Chris Hobbs has had considerable playing time for the Tigers over his four years at Clemson.

The 6'7" management major has been the lone senior starter for the Tigers during the season. The Chapel Hill native can hold his chin up as he has been a part of beating his hometown Tar Heels three of four times in Littlejohn Coliseum.

Four-year walk-on Beau Shay has averaged minimal numbers for the Tigers over his years on the team.

While he will not be missed for his time on the court, his attitude as a great team player will be missed.

Shay may not get much playing time for the Tigers, and when he does, it is usually mop up duty when the game is no longer in doubt.

Despite the small amount of playing time, Shay gets plenty of exercise throughout the game as he is a part of every single substitution as he is up off the bench to slap his teammates' hands in encouragement. Shay is also an assistant coach of sort as he is constantly barking out his teammates' assignments throughout the game. The 5'9" biological sciences major hopes to attend medical school after his time at Clemson, possibly at Southern Illinois University.

The Clemson men's basketball team will face off against the Yellow Jackets Saturday at Littlejohn Coliseum at 12 p.m.



### Standings

Team	Conf.	Overall
Duke	11-2	22-3
N.C. State	10-3	18-6
Wake Forest	8-5	18-6
Georgia Tech	6-7	19-8
UNC	6-7	16-8
Florida State	6-8	18-10
Maryland	5-8	14-10
Virginia	5-9	15-10
Clemson	3-11	10-15

### ACC Schedule

#### Saturday

Ga. Tech at Clemson, 12 p.m.  
Wake at Maryland, 1 p.m.

#### Sunday

UNC at N.C. State, 5:30 p.m.  
Duke at Florida State, 8 p.m.

#### Tuesday

Wake at Virginia, 7 p.m.  
Clemson at UNC, 9 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Ga. Tech at Duke, 7 p.m.  
Maryland at NCSU, 9 p.m.

## AP top 25

1. Stanford (64)
2. St. Joseph's (8)
3. Pittsburgh
4. Gonzaga
5. Duke
6. Oklahoma State
7. Mississippi State
8. Connecticut
9. Kentucky
10. Texas
11. Wake Forest
12. North Carolina
13. Providence
14. N.C. State
15. Cincinnati
16. Southern Illinois
17. Arizona
18. Georgia Tech
19. Memphis
20. Kansas
21. Louisville
22. Wisconsin
23. Illinois
24. Utah State
25. Texas Tech

### The Numbers Game

**0** Combined losses for No. 1 Stanford and No. 2 Saint Joseph's. The Cardinal were 23-0 going into Thursday's game with Oregon State, and the Hawks are 25-0.

**31** Points scored by Missouri's Rickey Paulding in the Tigers' double overtime upset of No. 6 Oklahoma State. Teammate Arthur Johnson added 29.

**7** Possible number of teams from the Atlantic Coast Conference that could be playing in the NCAA Tournament. All teams in the conference still have a shot for at-large bids except Clemson and Virginia.

**3** Game-winning three-pointers for Virginia guard Todd Billet in the Cavs' last four games. Billet hit a trey against No. 18 Georgia Tech on Valentine's Day with 2.4 seconds left for the win, against Clemson with 16 seconds last Saturday, and against No. 12 UNC with 13 seconds to go on Tuesday.



[STAFF EDITORIAL]

# Gibson's movie should, does evoke emotion

One of the most controversial and emotionally charged movies ever premiered this week, and fittingly enough it depicts one of the most controversial and emotionally charged stories ever.

Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ," which hit theaters Wednesday, has faced criticism from many corners. Nonetheless, Gibson had every right to make the film, and moviegoers have every reason to watch it.

Perhaps the most obvious aspect of the movie is the extreme violence portrayed in the torture and crucifixion of Jesus. This is the primary reason for the film's "R" rating, and it certainly lived up to it. Over 20 minutes of intense torture followed by the literally excruciating pain of the cross are leaving a distinct impression on nearly all viewers. And it should.

The subject of this movie is arguably the most controversial figure in history, and the discussion of this particular time in his life incites fervor and emotion from both Christians and non-Christians alike. Thus, anything less than this from the movie would be inappropriate.

Unfortunately, one woman in Wichita, Kansas, reportedly suffered a heart attack during the crucifixion scene on Wednesday and died later in a hospital. The violence and intensity of this film clearly should not be taken lightly.

Many have also objected over the last few months that the movie is anti-Semitic and will produce violence against Jews. Basically, it's still too early to tell whether or not this will be the case.

But regardless of what happens, anti-Semitic actions will not necessarily be the result of the film itself. The events that it



depicts have raised tensions between Jews and others for hundreds of years, so people should realize that the topic is already sensitive.

Gibson does nothing in the film that is exceptionally anti-Semitic, and of course he claims that he holds none of those feelings either. Some have even suggested that if any group of people should be offended,

it is Romans, who commit inhumane acts of torture without even blinking an eye in the movie.

Another aspect at issue here is the historicity of the film, and Gibson does hold closely to biblical descriptions for the most part. Biblical accounts of Jesus' last days don't depict a soft, easy death, and neither does Gibson.

Judging from the turnouts on just the first day, one can easily say that Christ is an issue that Americans take seriously and feel is very important. This doesn't mean that Gibson's film should be viewed as an objective historical document. Nor, however, does it need to be one. What people can agree on is that it depicts a person whom many different religions view as very significant and many people believe is life-changing. So, addressing the issue of Jesus is not only permissible but also crucial.

Sure, Gibson claims that he tried to hold very closely to what many consider to be very reliable historical documents, but nothing created by one individual is going to be strictly objective. There's going to be some artistic license, and some personal biases will probably be apparent. And again, that's really OK.

The film does an excellent job of capturing not only the earthly details intensity at the time but also the cosmic battle between good and evil, to which it alludes throughout the story. The hooded figure, which turns to a serpent at one point, keeps this perspective important, if in the background, throughout the film.

But this does not mean that viewers should come away feeling as though they have seen exactly what happened to Jesus in all its literal details. People should go to see this film, but they should do so very thoughtfully and not take it lightly. It remains as intense today as it was over 2,000 years ago.

*The opinions expressed in this editorial are written by the opinions editor and represent the majority opinion of The Tiger editorial board. In representing the majority view, the staff editorials may not represent the individual view of any particular member.*

## “speaking out”

How should Clemson respond to the Wednesday fire?



"I feel terrible about it, but as a student I can't do much so I hope that some people help them out. If nothing else, Pres. Barker should put them up."

**Charlie Culver**  
undeclared  
senior



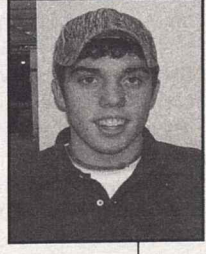
"Organizations can donate money, students can offer support, and the University as a whole can come together."

**Amanda Mueller**  
accounting  
sophomore



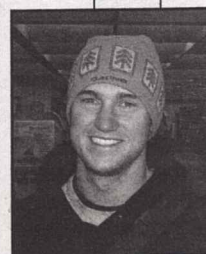
"The University should not be expected to do anything, but students should pitch in and help out all the students who lost everything in the fire."

**Kristi Ring**  
nursing  
sophomore



"It would be really sweet if students and faculty would volunteer time, money or whatever is necessary to expedite the process of getting the students back on track."

**Donnie Dinch**  
packaging science  
sophomore



"Provide temporary housing for the victims of the fire."

**Rusty Maben**  
civil engineering  
sophomore



"Everyone should donate money or extra clothing to the residents. If every student donates even a small amount of money, it will go a long way."

**Patti Vegella**  
psychology  
junior

### COMMENTARY

## Bring on new marriage law

Let's begin by assuming that stupidity is an innate characteristic that some people are born with. They don't choose to be stupid, they just are. American education institutions reward intelligence and academic performance, and these people are very clearly at a disadvantage and will not receive the same benefits as those who are smart: benefits such as acceptance to a college, scholarships and even higher paying jobs. Does this disadvantage entitle them to be classified as a protected class?

As such, they would have the right to appeal to the Constitution's equal protection clause and demand that they receive compensation and consideration. They could demand that the rules that govern and dictate college acceptance be changed to allow them to attend despite the fact that they do not meet the standards.

Does this scenario sound ridiculous? Well, this is exactly the same argument that is being used to justify homosexual marriage in Massachusetts and San Francisco. A handful of federal judges and officials have agreed that homosexuals should be granted the right to marry because they consider themselves a "distinct class" and should receive specific compensation granted to heterosexual unions. Sexual preference cannot truly be proven to be a genetic personality trait and is considered by many to be a matter of choice.

Tolerance of people's preferences is one thing; granting them privileges based solely on their particular preference is another matter entirely. To entitle homosexuals to the protection of federal recognition of their union would be to redefine marriage entirely. What about those individuals who care for an elderly relative in their home yet cannot claim that person as a dependent? They are making a choice that puts

them at an economic disadvantage, yet they receive no benefits.

A Constitutional amendment has been put before Congress and endorsed by President Bush this week. Liberals have drawn direct comparisons between a marriage amendment and the 18th Amendment that established

Prohibition, as if to say this amendment would be a vast failure before it even begins. What has not been clear is that an amendment would not exclude homosexuals from the ben-

efits of marriage; it would simply define marriage constitutionally as it already has been legally defined in almost every state. Marriage rights are available to homosexuals just as they are to heterosexuals if the union qualifies as a marriage. Every person who wants to marry has to meet qualifications: You must be a certain age, both parties must be consenting of the opposite sex. These are the rules that define what one must do to be eligible for marriage in America and to receive the benefits that accompany this legal status. If a homosexual wants to receive those privileges, then they can follow the rules and marry within the proper guidelines. Otherwise, they should choose to follow their alternative lifestyle and not marry.

While Bush may support the amendment unequivocally, the passage of such an article would be long and difficult; however, we must not let this current election issue fade over time. If the sanctity of marriage is to be protected, we must act decisively and seriously without compromise and we must not let this merely be manipulated as a political tool.

**Travis McConkey** is a sophomore with an undeclared major. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).



## COMMENTARY

# Beware: Parking lot stalkers haunt campus

I am writing to you today to address a serious problem we have on campus. We have a serious issue here at Clemson University with stalkers. They are lurking around every corner, waiting until the time is right to pounce and take what they perceive is rightfully theirs. They can strike without any warning, and when they do, it's terribly annoying.

I'm not talking about your average psycho who hides in the bushes; he's not really our main concern. I'm talking about parking stalkers, and if you are one of the many students with a car on campus, you know exactly what I'm talking about. These people are ruthless and beguiling and will stop at nothing to get convenient parking (and in turn, cause me to swear and be late for class).

Sure, they usually invade only the commuter lots closest to campus, and there's always ample parking up near the fire station. But who really wants to hike all the way from there? Sure, there's the CAT bus, but that provides a whole extra set of moral issues.

I'll paint you a better picture if you are still oblivious. Each morning when I arrive, the commuter lots are filled with cars. It makes perfect sense when you think about it, right — parking lots filled with cars? It makes absolutely no sense when the lots are filled with cars standing (which is probably even illegal), waiting for an innocent victim to walk from class and vacate a single space. These predators sit in the middle of the lane, causing all sorts of traffic problems. When you have to swerve around them and another car is coming around the same corner, it can be quite dangerous.

Often I've had to wait several minutes while being blocked from all directions, just so somebody

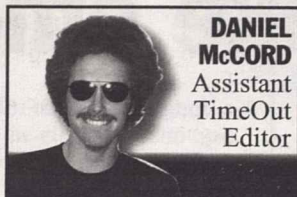
wouldn't have to walk an extra three minutes to class. If you're sitting there, you've already wasted that much time. Would it hurt you to get a little exercise? No wonder Americans generally have a problem with obesity!

Of course the argument can be turned around on me. "Daniel, you're just too lazy and impatient to wait in the queue for a space." Of course I'd like to be able to get out of my car and walk right into a classroom. I don't mind a little walk, though. I can handle a full lot. The age-old parking debate is usually directed at Parking Services, and I care not to contribute to that. I am placing blame on students this time.

My issue lies with those who get here early and wait so that they can follow closely on the heels of pedestrians and pull in right when the other car pulls out. These are the real stalkers. You can stop and look over a shoulder, and they will just wait on you. Once, a "friend" of mine, let's call him "Dan M." for anonymity, turned around to one such stalker, gave "the finger" and kept walking. The stalker kept on at one-half mile per hour, about three feet from crushing the two pedestrians. "Dan M." proceeded to drop his pants to around his ankles, bend over for a few seconds and pull his pants back up. The stalker kept on until someone else pulled out from a closer space. He gave up on his prey after the long stalking.

This is serious, people, and it drives me nuts. But of course, some people call me "the Angriest Man in Clemson." Maybe it's true. However, that doesn't mean that stalking is appropriate.

**Daniel McCord** is a senior in mechanical engineering. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).



**DANIEL MCCORD**  
Assistant  
TimeOut  
Editor

## Letters to the EDITOR

### Another ClearSKY subscriber turns it in

Great commentary! ClearSKY is located directly across the street from my office. I hated Bellsouth so I thought since I could see the tower that ClearSKY uses to send the signal, it would be awesome. They do suck! They have nobody in charge and do not care about the customer. I am headed there now to cancel my service.

*Tal Slann  
Clemson, S.C.*

### Thanks for rugby coverage

As an alumni and volunteer for the team I greatly appreciate The Tiger's coverage of the rugby team. It is important that the student body recognize the hard work and dedication the students at Clemson have invested in having one of the best rugby teams in the country.

*Jim Gaine  
Seneca, S.C.*

### Ten Commandments should remain foundational

In response to last week's From the Editor's Desk, the only problem with this argument is that the Koran was not used to base law in this country. While many will argue that the Ten Commandments has nothing to do with U.S. Law (which is hard to exclude given the fact that many of the laws are mirror documents), the fact that any other religion should be admonished has no bearing on this subject. The fact is that the lawmakers will con-

tinue to use the citizens for their own gain until the citizen makes it known that he/she has had enough. Unfortunately, the citizens as a majority could care less. And we all suffer because of this. Great piece, though. Caroline, you will go far.

*Michael Freeman  
Anderson County, S.C.*

### Support for summer school

I support Miss Smith's article for the sake of improving the academic integrity of Clemson. Having recently graduated with a B.S. in computer engineering, the 13 or so credit hours I earned during my summer school enrollment was more enjoyable and more durable in my memory. While it may not be on the top of the University's agenda, I encourage the Board of Trustees to consider transitioning the University to a trimesterly or quarterly academic schedule.

*Mike Bowen  
Annapolis, Maryland*

**Letters to the editor** should be no longer than 300 words. They must include the author's name, hometown and phone number (or e-mail address). All letters will be checked for authenticity and may be edited for clarity and grammar. **THE TIGER** reserves the right to print or edit all submissions. Send letters to our U.S. Mail address or e-mail them to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).

## COMMENTARY

# Does your candidate have sense of humor?

Earlier this week, I was privileged to take part in The Tiger's interviews of this year's student body presidential and vice presidential candidates. News editor Isaiah Trillo handled all of the really important political questioning. Meanwhile, I asked the candidates questions about pet monkeys and power tools.

Presidential candidates Danny Higginbotham, Adam Hammond, Daniel Perry and Cooper Ellenberg, in addition to vice-presidential candidates Katy Bayless and Charlie Walls, all participated in the interview. I swear I did not make this up. I looked each candidate in the eye and said, in a serious tone:

*Q: If you had a pet monkey named Chester, and you could teach him to do anything you wanted, what would it be?*

Danny: It would be funny to entertain myself and have him get me random things, like the dog on the Budweiser commercial during the Super Bowl.

Adam: Clean my apartment. Right now it is an absolute mess. People walk in my room and say, "You're running for Student Body President?" If I had a monkey, he'd definitely be cleaning my room.

Daniel: I'd take him out to Bowman and play frisbee with him. We'd do cartwheels. I've just got this picture in my head of a monkey doing cartwheels.

Cooper: To steal my roommate Kevin's hat at any opportunity because it never comes off his head.

Katy: I would teach Chester how to cook because I am not a good cook, and honestly, that would be a huge advantage. If I could have a pet monkey to cook for me everyday, I would love that.

Charlie: I would teach him how to drive my car so I would have a chauffeur 24/7.

*Matt: I would train Chester to guzzle beer while dancing a merry little jig.*

*Q: What would you name your clone?*

Danny: David — that's what my parents always wanted to name me. Adam: Yadam.

Daniel: My parents already took the job out of my hands — my twin brother is named David.

Cooper: Steve Stevenson. (Cooper has actually been known to introduce himself as Steve Stevenson — "Hi, I'm Steve. Steve Stevenson.")

Katy: An extremely uncommon name. Evelyn, maybe — the furthest thing from Katy possible.

Charlie: Clark Kent — so I can be friends with Superman.

*Matt: Guido. 'Nuff said.*

*Q: If you could replace your LEFT hand with some other device (power tools, kitchen utensil, toilet plunger, etc.), what would it be?*

Danny: The remote — that way I wouldn't have to pick it up or find it.

Adam: I want a "go-go gadget" arm with some "go-go gadget" utensil — just as long as it has the phrase "go-go gadget."

Daniel: A hook, so I can walk around and go "Argh!" (Holds up a crooked finger and says, "Argh!")

Cooper: A samurai sword — just because it'd be cool.

Katy: A cell phone with free minutes, because every month, it never fails — I go over.

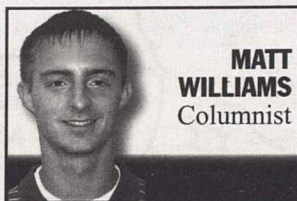
Charlie: A Swiss army knife — they're always handy.

*Matt: Go-go gadget chainsaw!*

*Q: If you could leave a message for future generations of Clemson students on the interior of a bathroom stall, what would it be?*

Danny: "Ban the woohoo."

Adam: The one on the 2nd floor of the library all the way in the back says, "Look left. Look right. Look up. Gotcha."



**MATT WILLIAMS**  
Columnist

Daniel: "Bring some music and enjoy yourself while you're at it."

Cooper: "There is nothing that can't be done as long as your options are one and two."

Katy: "Live every day to its fullest."

Charlie: "Always have tiger paws facing one o'clock."

*Matt: "I like pie."*

*Q: Hypothetical situation: You're addressing the student government in the senate chambers when suddenly, Harcombe is engulfed in flames. You investigate the commotion and hear a kitten meowing helplessly inside. Meanwhile, your leadership on a bill establishing an annual student government badminton game leaves your legacy as president hanging in the balance, and worse yet, a meteor is scheduled to hit the earth at precisely 6:29 p.m. Mountain Standard Time. Knowing that you can run approximately 12 mph, the melting point of the kitten is about 175 degrees Fahrenheit, and the vernal equinox is set to take place the next day, then how much wood would a wood chuck chuck if a wood chuck could chuck wood?*

Danny: A wood chuck could chuck as much wood as a wood-chuck wanted if a woodchuck could chuck wood. (Clever.)

Adam: I don't know if a wood chuck is going to be chucking much because we'd all be dead in a couple of minutes.

Daniel: I'll get back to you on that one.

Cooper: Poor kitten, but he was going to get cooked one way or the other.

Katy: Holy cow!

Charlie: As much wood as a wood chuck would chuck if a wood chuck could chuck wood. (Wow — that comment is even cleverer the second time you get to hear it.)

*Matt: Mmmm...pie.*

**Matt Williams** is a junior in mechanical engineering. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).

## COMMENTARY

# "Sex and the City" leaves hole in Sunday nights

"Sex and the City" reached its finale after six seasons and 94 episodes, and the cast and loyal viewers weren't ready to say goodbye to the fab four that have been a part of their Sunday evenings since 1998. The show is based on Candace Bushnell's best-selling book "Sex and the City," which was an initial hit.

Episode by episode, it pushed the envelope and expressed the unsaid that women are afraid to reveal. When you thought Samantha couldn't be more scandalous, she found a way to shock you once again. One feeling was mutual after every episode: I was so relieved my mom wasn't sitting there next to me.

"Sex" is not only about four successful women in a big city; they represented a cultural movement. Can women have it all? Well, the only thing they are missing is their most important accessory ... a man. But while they are single, they make it look fabulous.

Samantha, Charlotte, Miranda and Carrie are so unique, from the way they are with men, their careers, style, language and expectations. Despite their diversity, they all mesh together. Each viewer can relate to a character, and it can even remind them of their own circle of friends: the crazy friend, "miss innocent," neurotic at times or the girl next door. There is even a quiz to see which "Sex" character you are.

Samantha Jones, played by Kim Cattral, is a sultry, self-reliant PR executive who is always on the prowl. She is adventurous, always up for trying new things

and spontaneity. When she sees what she wants, she intends to get it. Samantha is the anti-Charlotte because she never wants to be married and sees it as a sign of weakness and even pretends not to be in love. Samantha is a friend who can be really tough and awkward

at times, she rarely lets her guard down and doesn't hesitate to speak her mind.

Charlotte, played by Kristin Davis, is the all-time believer of fairy tale lives and weddings. She grew

up wearing her mother's pearls and reading about New York. She lives for the romantic proposal, beautiful china, tiffany furniture, plays tennis and is the perfect wife. She is the sorority girl who was never bad and wrote all her thank-you cards, and the friend who always finds the right thing to say when you are completely lost in a problem. However, she also speaks her mind and tells what she is thinking when it is appropriate.

Miranda, played by Cynthia Nixon, is the career-focused, sarcastic friend of the bunch. She is also the one who makes some of the funniest lines of all six seasons. She is the one who sometimes believes in all that "Charlotte perfect love" stuff but also has some of Samantha's spontaneity in her. She's not afraid to pick up a guy at Weight Watchers when she's trying to lose her baby weight or have phone sex with a lawyer in another state. As a friend she is caring. When she knows she has made a mistake, she will apologize and make things better. Carrie relies

on Miranda with her most secret stuff because she is the friend who grounds her, puts things into perspective but also tells her what she really needs.

Carrie, played by Sarah Jessica Parker, is the lead character and also a producer of "Sex." She writes a column called "Sex and the City" for the newspaper, and that's where the show's focus derives from. Carrie is the friend who is never scared to take a fashion risk. Her first love was New York and second was Manolo Blahnik stilettos, and she spends all of her money on them! She loves to find happiness in the little things in life, like her Carrie necklace. She was never able to let go of her "Mr. Big," or the one that she can't have but always came back to. She was the one who always treasured her girlfriends so much and made sure never to lose her "soulmates," as Charlotte put it.

In the farewell Carrie finally gave in to her true love. Charlotte gets the baby she wants so badly. Miranda learned to love unselfishly. Samantha learned to give in to love and give it back. Even though the show is over, it never will end. It will still be a topic over cosmos, continue to inspire women and make us laugh.

"Sex" will be reappearing in June on TBS Superstation for a 15-month exclusive window of weekly airing. Fall 2005, all 94 episodes will be edited by Tribune Broadcasting on all of its stations. HBO is in the works to bring "Sex" to the big-screen.

**Kelly Gillespie** is a senior majoring in marketing. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).



**KELLY GILLESPIE**  
Interim  
Managing  
Editor



## COMMENTARY

## Opportunity, communication mark Clemson experience

I had an interesting experience this weekend. On Saturday, I attended a student leadership seminar for a group of high school seniors who were more or less "academic" recruits. But these kids had more than academic merit; they had a variety of important roles that included your student body presidents, newspaper editors, talented musicians, star athletes — the list could go on forever. So here we were, a group of "student leaders" on a mission to convince these students to make the decision we've all made and become a Tiger. Although the purpose of the seminar was to inform and inspire the students, I came out of it with a better understanding of what I have become and how I have changed since I first stepped on this campus.

My decision to come to Clemson was not an easy one. I wasn't a born Tiger, I had no family connections and I did not consider myself a typical Clemson student. I visited the campus and was amazed at the friendliness and welcoming of the campus, but at the same time I was very intimidated by the conservativeness and whiteness of the University. I was impressed by the academia and specifically the biochemistry program. Everyone seemed very welcoming, and particularly the faculty and administration seemed very approachable. In the end I decided it would be a good investment to attend Clemson.

However, the trouble and indecisiveness did not end there. It took me almost a full academic year to get over the rural nature of the campus, as my dream schools were all located in sprawling metropolises. The conservativeness of the campus also fazed me, as it was very difficult to make the adjustment to college being, in every meaning of the word, a minority. These are things that bother me in general, but in such a vulnerable time as freshman year, they were frightening.

So there I was, a college sophomore being asked by these kids I was trying to recruit why I came to Clemson. In short, I don't know why I came to Clemson. It may have been the only practical decision I have ever made. The adjustment to Clemson was immense and very difficult, but here I am very happy to be a Clemson Tiger.

And this is what I told them. I was honest with them. I told them

about my initial misgivings. I told them about the conservativeness of the campus and how it bothered me. But I also said that knowing what I know now, I am very happy with my decision. The thing is, I was overly worried about the "college experience."

I was worried I would not get what amounted to a full "college experience" at a Southern, rural university. I was afraid I would not be able to expand my horizons. But eventually, after adjustment, I learned to approach the problem in a different light — I learned that everyone around me was

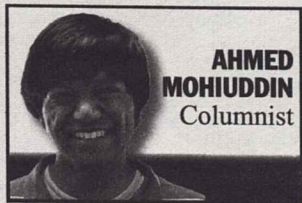
doing what I did not even think to do: They were redefining the college experience.

There is so much that is accomplished at this University that is a direct result of a positive interaction between students and faculty. Ask any undergraduate who is involved with research. Part of the reason why we're not a Top 20 school is that we focus on undergraduate study. Therefore, professors at this university have the opportunity to cultivate the research interests of very competent undergraduate students and are very welcoming to do so.

With my student government work, I have learned that the administrators on this campus are very approachable and are eager to help you help this campus in any way you see fit. I know of friends who have had ideas and visions for this campus and simply knocked on President Barker's door to present them. President Barker, his administration and the faculty on this campus are receptive to student ideas for improvement. An even easier way is simply to walk into the student government office by Harcombe. There's someone there every working hour of the week. It's so easy to set things in motion and make it happen — this campus is perfect for a grassroots movement or initiative of any kind.

So that's what I told these kids. That's what you can get here that you can't get at Harvard, Yale and the like. What you can receive here is more than an education, it's the opportunity for change, the chance to make a difference — the possibilities are endless.

**Ahmed Mohiuddin** is a sophomore in biochemistry. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).



**AHMED MOHIUDDIN**  
Columnist

## COMMENTARY

## Who will win this game?

After Tuesday's minority council debate, I originally planned to write a column to analyze each candidate. But instead of giving you a boring rehash, I'm going to mix it up a little and give you a brief rundown of my thoughts on how each candidate performed and perhaps even endorse one of them by the end. First, let me preface this by saying that I'm not involved in any of these campaigns and none of them are my best buddies. So here's the crucial warning: if you don't want my opinion, read no further.

There are four candidates we shall for now call Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta. As each makes introductory remarks, I try to remind myself I would make no judgments until the end of the debate. This thought quickly fades. On the one hand, Alpha, Beta and Delta either didn't prepare well or still haven't taken their required public speaking class. Each fumbles through their speech, and Alpha even had to take out a note card to remember his platform. On the other hand, Gamma stands out from the rest just because he's able to speak clearer and never says "um." While his delivery is quite casual, you can tell he was ready for this game. Maybe the rest were nervous. Nevertheless, the next president is a public figure representing us students, and he better be able to speak effectively in front of hundreds of people, much less just a few. Score check: Gamma 1; Alpha, Beta and Delta tied at 0.

As the speeches conclude, I'm trying to remind myself what each candidate said so I can ask a question. I look through the handouts I was given, but the only thing I received was Gamma's orange platform sheet. No one else had brought anything. Now, you would think that if candidates randomly hand out these things between classes when most could care less, they would at least bring the same materials to a debate where the audience obviously has more interest. Oops — perhaps a small overlook on Alpha, Beta and Delta's part, but the president should be as prepared and enthused as possible. Score check: Gamma 2; Alpha, Beta and Delta still tied at 0.

Let's move on to qualifications. Beta has no student government experience. Like Wesley Clark, he claims to be the "outsider" who will be able to see things differently. Frankly, it's hard to believe that inexperience is a good thing. If elected, he'd just become another outsider turned "insider" and would be further behind in learning the system than the other candidates. You only have one year. Alpha and Delta have some experience but in my four years at Clemson, I wouldn't place their names with any of student government's great accomplishments. Gamma says he

was integral in forming some coalition of students to lobby against budget cuts in Columbia. This hasn't really been as effective as I would hope (my tuition still went up), but I can see the effectiveness and originality. Score check:

Gamma 3, Alpha 1, Delta 1 and Beta 0.

How well do these candidates know their "stuff?" It was a mixed bag. Gamma seemed like the only one who had control over his

thoughts. The rest mumbled their way through it with a few concise answers here and there. In fact, as the session grew longer, Beta and Delta began to feed off answers by Alpha and Gamma. There were a lot of "Well, I agree with X person" prefixes to the answers. For example, when the parking issue came up, Beta said that he wanted to get students more of the unused green spaces. Gamma, who apparently has worked on the parking review board, blatantly said it was not possible and outlined why it wasn't. Delta promptly agreed. Score check: Gamma 4, Alpha 2, Delta 1 and Beta 0.

I asked the candidates to grade the current president. They all claim they should be held accountable in their introductions, so I figured they would hold the current president accountable. Instead, with the president in the room, they all sidestepped the question. Alpha said he couldn't grade a friend. Beta was embarrassed to answer it but quickly mumbled, "I hear a lot of students say he doesn't do anything." Gamma thought I was persecuting the president with the question. And I don't remember what Delta said but it wasn't memorable. Score check: Gamma 4, Alpha 2, Delta 1 and Beta 1.

Then the "you're white, how do you know what minorities are going through" question comes up. I wait with bated breath to hear these answers. Alpha says "black girls taught me how to dance," and that he previously attended some step-show for high school students. Beta says he has minority friends, and Delta says his best friend is Pakistani so I suppose that makes them qualified. Gamma admits he isn't qualified (since he's white) to know exactly what minorities are going through. Final score check: Gamma 5, Alpha 1, Delta 0 and Beta 0. (Yes, negative points are possible in this game when you say something ignorant.)

And now it's time to reveal the mystery players. I again remind you to stop here if you do not wish to know. Beta is Daniel Perry. Delta is Cooper Ellenberg. Alpha is Danny Higginbotham. And the winner, Gamma, is Adam Hammond. Best wishes to all the candidates.

**Adora Cheung** is a senior in econ. and comp. sci. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).



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## BRIEF PAWS

Clemson baseball may have lost its first game, but the Tigers are still Clemson's historically best sports team and are looking to Omaha.

Athens Olympics organizers plan to use hawks to keep seagulls and their droppings off of competitors during the Games. Thanks for keeping athletes safe.

As of March 29, Ireland is banning smoking in its pubs, bars and restaurants. Hey, no more questions about where people sit for dinner.

A 1,980-pound pig, which may have been the biggest ever, died in China from lack of exercise. Hey, he was living the good life.

Normand St. Michel plans to open a coffee shop in Maine this summer that will have topless waitresses. Good idea — let the consumers decide.



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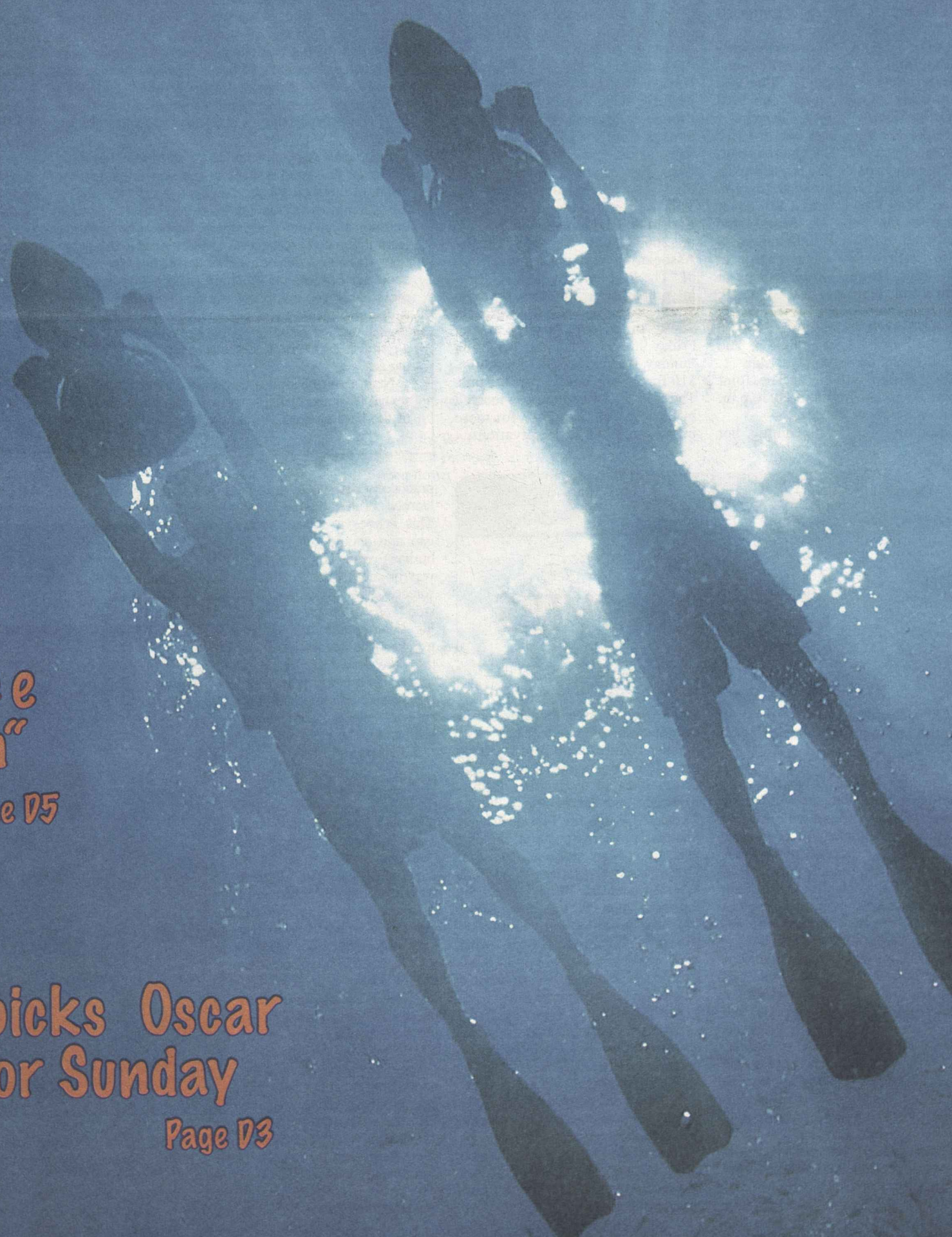
Page D6

Experience  
"The Passion"

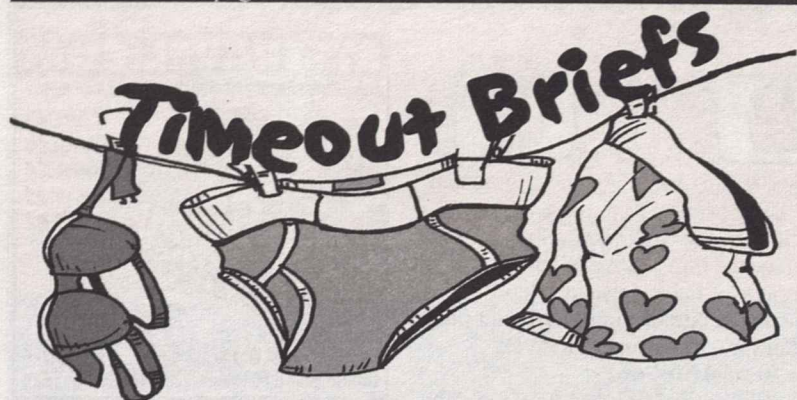
Page D5

TimeOut picks Oscar  
winners for Sunday

Page D3







Take home these new DVDs out next Tuesday, Mar. 2: **"Changing Rooms - Trust me, I'm a Designer,"** **"Cold Creek Manor,"** **"Duplex,"** **"Jack Black Pack (School of Rock/Orange County-Widescreen,"** **"Searching for Debra Winger"** and **"The Big Bounce."**

Check out these new movies in theaters tonight, Feb. 27: **"Broken Lizard's Club Dread,"** **"Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights,"** **"Maybe,"** **"Risk/Reward"** and **"Twisted."**

Add these new CD releases to your collection on Tuesday, Mar. 2: **All State Champions'** "It is Nothing to You," **Cheap Trick's** "Essential Cheap Trick," **Drift's** "Ribs is Touchin'," **East New York Ensemble de Music's** "All the Helm," **Hootie and the Blowfish's** "Best of Hootie and the Blowfish 1993-2003," **Jessica Simpson's** "In this Skin (Bonus Tracks & DVD)," **Kris Kristofferson's** "Essential Kris Kristofferson," **Sweetback's** "Stage 2," **The Get Up Kids'** "Guilt Show" and **Will 'O the Wisp's** "Cionn Caslach."

Here are your best bets for live music this week: The veteran roadhouse blues band **The Nighthawks** will be at The Handlebar tonight, Feb. 27 at 9 p.m. with a \$10 cover charge. On Feb. 28, **Mandorico** will be at the Handlebar at 9 p.m. with a \$10 cover charge at the door. **Honey Child** will be at The Joint Saturday, Feb. 28 at 10:30 p.m. with a \$3 cover charge. **"The Search for Atlantis: Battle of the Bands"** will be held at The Handlebar on Monday, Mar. 1. **King Hippo** will be at The Joint next Thursday, Mar. 4 at 10:30 p.m. with a \$4 cover charge.

Looking for an upcoming hot

concert? Check these out: **Guster** at the Tabernacle in Atlanta on Mar. 5; **Brooks and Dunn** at Littlejohn Coliseum on Mar. 6; **John Mayer** at the Bi-Lo Center in Greenville on Mar. 10; **The Strokes** at Myrtle Beach's House of Blues on Mar. 12; **Confederate Railroad** at Suck, Bang, Blow in Murrells Inlet, S.C. on Mar. 19; **Britney Spears** at the Colonial Center in Columbia on Mar. 24; **"The Indigo Girls Project"** at the Fox Theater in Atlanta Mar. 25-28; **Liz Phair** at House of Blues in Myrtle Beach on Mar. 26; **Beyonce Knowles** at Charlotte Coliseum in Charlotte, N.C. on March 27; **Alicia Keys** at Philips Arena in Atlanta on Mar. 28; **Yanni** at the Colonial Center in Columbia on Mar. 30; **Jars of Clay** at the Savannah Civic Center Mar. 30-31; **Aerosmith** at the Colonial Center in Columbia on Apr. 7; and **Alabama** will be at Littlejohn Coliseum on Apr. 17.

Tonight the **Clemson University Jazz Ensemble** will perform with award-winning jazz trumpeter **Marcus Printup** at the Brooks Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m. The concert is free. For more information go to [www.clemson.edu/Brooks](http://www.clemson.edu/Brooks). This weekend, Feb. 27 to 29, the **Foothills Playhouse** will present its 2003 South Carolina Theatre Association first place production of "The Problem" by A. R. Gurney in preparation for the regional Southeastern Theatre Conference. Show times are at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students. The Foothills Playhouse is located in Easley. Call 855-1817 for more information and for reservations.

## ON THE PROWL

BY ALANNA JONES

Talking to other people about sex is a rather nerve racking subject. Most people don't even know where to begin when approaching the subject with another person, especially your significant other. It makes them anxious and they get all tongue-tied and shy. Being open, honest and asking questions about sex is very important in a relationship, whether it's a sexual one or not.

Sex is definitely something that not everyone is comfortable talking about. However, it seems to be something that everyone wants to discuss. I really enjoy writing this column. I like helping others and providing information about different sexual and relationship topics. Even more so I enjoy the e-mails I receive from my readers that express how much they enjoy my column, share funny stories or ask questions. This is one way I know that people are naturally curious and enjoy discussing sex. Also, almost every time I go out in public, I either meet a new person or an old friend approaches me with a sex question or story. They know I write this column and therefore have done a lot of research about sex and relationships.

I'm not sure exactly what it is about me that makes others feel completely comfortable sharing things with me, such as, they "wear a man thong" or asking me "How can I boost my stamina?" I must give off some kind of aura that says, "Talk to me, ask me questions, tell me your innermost secrets or don't worry, I won't judge you!" Don't get me wrong, I like helping other people with their sex questions (hey, it's why I write this column), but sometimes people just share way too much information with me. Because of this, and the obvious fear and anxiety most people have talking about sex, I am going to offer some tips that should help you to break the ice and dive right in to talking about sex.

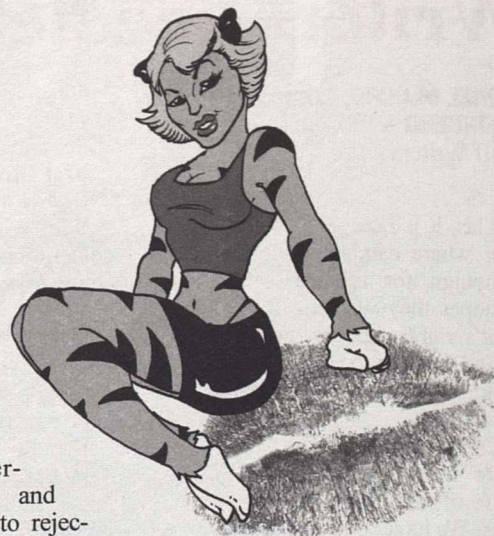
First and foremost, never be afraid to ask questions. There are no stupid questions. The stupid thing is not asking a question when you don't understand something. It may seem stupid or make you feel silly to ask a question about something sexual, but how else will you learn if you don't ask questions? You need to ask questions when you are confused or don't know something about sex because the more information you have, the more likely you are to not end up in an embarrassing situation. For example, the guy who asked me what "butt plugs" were will now know to say "heck no" if a girl ever asks him if he wants to try using them during sex.

Next, don't be afraid! Don't be scared to share your sexual likes and dislikes with your partner. This is one of the hardest tasks for people because it leaves you

vulnerable and open to rejection. However, your partner is not a mind reader and will never figure out what you want them to do in the sack unless you tell them. Also, be sure to let them know when they are doing something good or if they are doing something bad. You should follow Banky's advice from "Chasing Amy" and handle sex "like CNN and the Weather Channel: constant updates." Make sure to share the love and muster up the courage to ask your partner about their sexual likes and dislikes as well.

This may seem like simple and obvious advice. That's because it is. It's also important. For those of you who may still have trouble asking questions and sharing all of your dark and dirty secrets, there are other ways to discuss sex without being so forward. Try playing a game with your partner. Write down all of your fantasies or questions on sheets of paper. Then place the slips of paper in a bowl and mix them up. You and your significant other can take turns reading the questions and talking about each topic. This is a good way to learn more about your partner's wants and desires. Plus, it could spark a conversation that leads to a steamy night of fun.

If you still think you will be too tongue-tied to talk to your partner about intimate sexual details, turn to your friends. Your friends are there to help and answer your questions. If they are true friends they will not laugh at you or judge you when you go to them for help. If you have questions that you feel are stupid (which they aren't) or too embarrassing to ask your friends or partner then you can always e-mail me at [jallana@clemson.edu](mailto:jallana@clemson.edu). I will do my best to answer any questions you have and I will never print your name in the paper (unless you specifically ask me to). Everyone, please keep e-mailing me your hilarious stories, sex questions, relationship questions and your comments. I love hearing from you each week. Remember that talking and wondering about sex is normal and completely natural. Never be ashamed of your curiosity and always be honest with yourself and others.



## THE TOP 5

### COMIC MOVIES

**DANIEL McCORD**  
Assistant TimeOut Editor

This list should be prefaced by saying a few things about comic movies. These choices will probably seem to lean towards more modern films and not necessarily towards what everyone might think of as classic comic book flick. First of all, the graphic novel is in fact a type of comic book. Take this up with the guys at "Wizard" if you don't think so. Secondly, before the suggestions come in reminding me about that certain high grossing webslinger flick from two years ago, I must say that I was unimpressed by "Spider-Man." I wanted to like it. Spider-Man was one of my favorite comic book characters growing up. But the film just did not live up to my expectations. Also, the designation "comic movie" doesn't necessarily refer to the movie being based on a comic. Continue reading and you'll see what I'm talking about.

So, without further ado, here is a list of the top five comic films that hide out in the back of my mind at all times.

#### 1. "X-Men"

Bryan Singer directed one of the best films of the 1990s, "The Usual Suspects." What better path

to take than to direct the large screen introduction of one of the most popular comics ever? And he did a great job introducing us to the live action likes of Wolverine, Rogue, Mystique and Sabretooth in 2000's "X-Men." While the film dealt with lots of character exposition, the plot was an X-Men story at the core. Hugh Jackman even got to ad-lib a Wolverine-trademark "Bub." With Sir Ian McKellen as the magnificent Magneto matching wits with Patrick Stewart's Professor Xavier, what more could you ask for? I just wish I could get an application to Xaviers School for Gifted Youngsters.

#### 2. "X2"

Okay so this choice may be a better overall film, but it wouldn't exist without the first. "X2" took the story (and the franchise) to a whole new level (and became one of four 2003 films I trekked to the theater twice for). Besides letting Wolverine go all berserker on everyone, it also gave peeks at Kitty Pryde, Colossus and included one of the series' most amazing characters, Nightcrawler. The Nightcrawler visual effects alone deserved some sort of visual effects recognition during awards season. The plot was great, but the most impressive aspect of "X2" was its ubiquitous presentation of serious social themes. Bobby Drake's family

practically disowned him when they learned of his Iceman capabilities. This echoes a sort of twisted racism and should open eyes to how humans who are different in one way or another are treated in today's society. Pyro's transition to the "dark side" is also an interesting window into the human psyche. The scene that takes the cake, however, has to be Wolverine's battle with Lady Deathstrike. He finds out how he was "made," then has to kill his double.

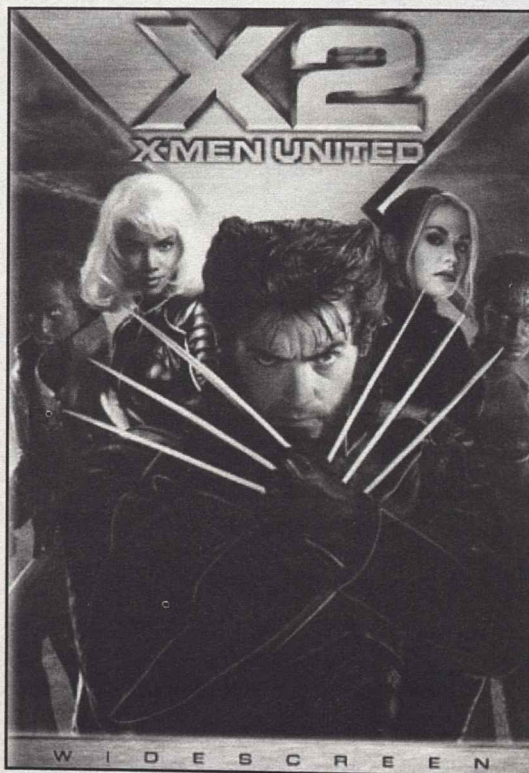
#### 3. "Batman"

"Have you ever danced with the devil in the pale moonlight?" With Jack Nicholson as the Joker and Tim Burton at the helm, "Batman" was a huge hit in the summer of 1989. Gotham was never before so grim, and Michael Keaton captured the essence of Bruce Wayne. The dark edge gives the film a nice film noir feel. The blond femme fatale is present. The dialogue is snappy enough to make it feel like a modernized classic noir screenplay. When I saw this film the first time, I was nine years old, and the part where the Joker fries that guy totally freaked me out. With the ultra-stylish look of the Batmobile and Bruce Wayne's poise as Batman, I was sold. The second film in the series was quite good also, but when the series fell into the inept hands of Joel Schumacher, it all went downhill. There's hope, though, with Christopher Nolan (of "Memento" fame) slated to direct the next one.

#### 4. "Ghost World"

Comics are almost like storyboards in as much as they are an almost

purely visual form of media. So take a really long comic, call it a graphic novel perhaps and you have something that translates easily into a feature length film. And I'm not going for the obvious choice of "Road to Perdition" on this one. Nope, this



one is an amazing adaptation of the Daniel Clowes' graphic novel "Ghost World." Darkly comedic in nature, "Ghost World" is a depressing trip into the mind of a confused teenager who really has no place in the world. Thora Birch is amazing as the lost teen, and everyone's current favorite starlet, Scarlett Johansson, absolutely shines as her cynical friend. Steve Buscemi begs pity as the record geek, Seymour. The fun-

niest element comes from the local mullet who practices his nunchakus in the convenient store parking lot while snacking on malt liquor and beef jerky and listening to metal. Luckily, Terry Zwigoff, the director, and Daniel Clowes, are teaming up once again for a film called "Art School Confidential."

#### 5. "Mallrats"

Here's the part when I stray from comic inspired movies to include one where Stan Lee makes an appearance as himself to talk about what inspired him to create the comics. One Jason Mewes, as Jay (half of superhero team Jay and Silent Bob), also performs Wolvie's Berserker attack with sound effects ("snickety snickety") for everyone to see in the middle of the mall. Silent Bob flies through the air in a Batman costume (and later uses "the Force.") I'm talking "Mallrats," baby. It's as much a comic movie as any of the others listed. Kevin Smith is a brilliant storyteller (who owns a comic shop), and this film is no exception. Even if Jason Lee does wax philosophical with Stan Lee about superhero genitalia, this movie shines with reverence to comics.

All that being said, let me note that I love the world of comics, and this list may have to be updated after the releases of "The Punisher" and "Spider-Man 2." Also, if there's a chance that Bill Willingham's "Fables" will ever get made into a movie, sign me up as a fan. And Stan Lee, though a great man, may be responsible for my recurring delusions of grandeur. If only I had a cool superhero name ... I already have the powers. ★



# Writers predict outcome of Academy Awards

**DANIEL McCORD, ADAM STEINBERG & MICHAEL HUNLEY**  
Staff Writers

Alas, it is here — that time of the year where candidates compete and campaign for months and months in hopes they will win the big vote. That's right — Oscar season is upon us and is about to reach its peak — the Academy Awards presentation this Sunday.

The resident film geeks at "The Tiger" have decided to help you make sense of the impossible list of nominees. We have looked into our crystal ball and will tell you who will win in each of the major categories. We have also compiled a list of who we really think deserves to win, and who we think was left off the short list. So pull out your life savings and place your bets based on the predictions of "The Tiger." We know everything.

## Best Picture:

**Adam Steinberg's:**

Will Win: I'm predicting an upset here with "Lost in Translation." If "Return of the King" loses, this will be the surprise winner.

Should Win: "Return of the King" will be remembered forever as the finale to one of the greatest film trilogies of all time.

Should Have Been Nominated: The one movie I saw this year that had more of an emotional impact than "Mystic River" was "Thirteen."

**Daniel McCord's:**

Will Win: "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" will easily take home the statue this year. Peter Jackson's stunning epic will win not only because it's a great picture, but also due to the fact that it successfully ended one of the greatest film trilogies of all time.

Should Win: "Mystic River" won my vote when I first saw it opening day. After reading early reviews I planned on being impressed, but the level of greatness (due to great acting all around) totally blew my mind.

Should Have Been Nominated: "Kill Bill: Vol. 1" sneaks up in the back of my mind as something that

would never be included in such an awards show but definitely pleased critics and audiences alike.

## Best Director:

**Daniel McCord's:**

Will Win: Peter Jackson will be golden this year. His work on the entire trilogy stands out as proof of his talent.

Should Win: Peter Weir constructed "Master and Commander" so well that, on a single film basis, he should get the prize.

Should Have Been Nominated: Tarantino, oh yeah! Could he have made "Kill Bill: Vol. 1" without being an enormous film geek with more knowledge of the films of yesteryear than most directors out there?

**Michael Hunley's:**

Will Win: The "King" of them all, Peter Jackson.

Should Win: The force behind "Lost in Translation's" hypnotic power, Sofia Coppola.

Should Have Been nominated: Jim Sheridan, who made the great "In America" so intimate and warm.

## Best Actor:

**Adam Steinberg's:**

Will Win: Bill Murray and Sean Penn both deserve to win equally as much. I'm taking Murray simply because this feels like his year, and because I think some people just don't like Sean Penn and it will cost him in votes.

Should Win: Sean Penn gave a harrowing performance in "Mystic River," and he is way overdue. No one has been better over the past decade.

Should Have Been Nominated: It doesn't get any funnier than Jack Black and "School of Rock." Black gave the pure comedic performance of the year, not Johnny Depp.

**Daniel McCord's:**

Will Win: Sean Penn's turn as Jimmy Markum takes the cake. With actors being the largest branch of Academy voters, it's hard to see how anyone else will win.

Should Win: If I were an academy voter, Sean Penn would get my vote as well.

I felt the power of his rage and

anguish dripping from the screen both times I saw this film.

Should Have Been Nominated: After attending the "Pirates of the Caribbean" acting academy, Johnny Depp turned out another stylishly outrageous performance in "Once Upon a Time in Mexico."

**Michael Hunley's:**

Will Win: Sean Penn's powerful and haunting performance in "Mystic River."

Should Win: "Translation's" Bill Murray, who combined humor and pathos brilliantly.

Should Have Been Nominated: "American Splendor's" charming curmudgeon Paul Giamatti.

## Best Actress:

**Adam Steinberg's:**

Will Win: Charlize Theron is the surprise of the year in "Monster." She goes from pretty woman to killer. The Academy loves this type of stuff.

Should Win: Diane Keaton gave the best comedic female performance of the past five years in "Something's Gotta Give." She deserves the award just for showing off her almost 60-year-old naked body.

Should Have Been Nominated: Uma Thurman played the sexpot and the heroin in "Kill Bill." She was also involved in some of the most graphic scenes in film history and supplied them with the intensity required to pull the scenes off. If you have seen the movie you know what I am talking about.

**Michael Hunley's:**

Will Win & Should Win: "Monster's" Charlize Theron — her transformative performance was touching and scary, often at the same time.

Should Have Been Nominated: One of the best child performances in ages, the outstanding Evan Rachel Wood of "Thirteen."

## Best Supporting Actor:

**Adam Steinberg's:**

Will Win: Perhaps even better than Sean Penn in "Mystic River" was Tim Robbins. His quiet subtle role was the most gut wrenching role of the year.

Should Win: Robbins, who was screwed over when he didn't win for

"The Shawshank Redemption."

Should Have Been Nominated: "Big Fish" was the most overlooked film of the year, and Albert Finney gave the film's best performance. His role as a father misunderstood by his son was one of the saddest and most uplifting characters of the year.

**Daniel McCord's:**

Will Win: Tim Robbins took the Golden Globe and is slated to take the Oscar also.

Should Win: While Ken Watanabe in "The Last Samurai" definitely stands out, Robbins' depth in "Mystic River" was so creepy that I have to give it to him.

Should Have Been Nominated: Paul Bettany's companion to Russell Crowe in "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World" displays some of the best character work I noticed in 2003.

## Best Supporting Actress:

**Adam Steinberg's:**

Will Win: Renee Zellweger. I'm not sure why everyone in Hollywood loves her so much, but she has been nominated three years in a row. It's obvious the Academy thinks she is due.

Should Win: I have not seen "House of Sand and Fog" so I am going to go with Marcia Gay Harden, who plays an emotionally confused woman who basically has her husband killed.

Should Have Been Nominated: I consider Scarlett Johansson's per-

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formance in "Lost in Translation" to be supporting. Without her, the film simply would not be the great movie that it is.

**Daniel McCord's:**

Will Win: It looks like Renee Zellweger will get the redemption from her loss in last year's "Chicago."

Should Win: Anyone who manages to take even a little of the spotlight away from Ben Kingsley deserves something more than a nomination. Shohreh Aghdashloo's role in "House of Sand and Fog" merits this award.

Should Have Been Nominated: If a picture is worth a thousand words, Miranda Otto's facial expression as Eowyn in "Return of the King" is worth millions.

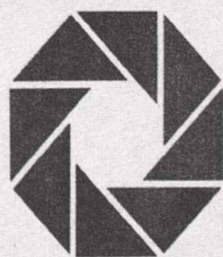
**Michael Hunley's:**

Will Win & Should Win: Shohreh Aghdashloo's heartbreaking role as a put-upon wife in "House of Sand and Fog."

Should Have Been Nominated: "Lost in Translation's" luminous Scarlett Johansson. ★

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# Different roots mix, create unique sound

KEREM ARSAL  
Staff Writer

Recently I heard a very interesting theory, though I cannot remember exactly what its name was. It was something like "Rule of 6" or whatever... Anyways, this rule suggests that no matter who you are, you have five people between you and me. You know a friend and he is her sister, and so on. I do not necessarily believe in such "theories," but I do believe that the world is very small and it is rapidly turning into a common house where people are living together regardless of their nationality, race, religion and sex. Music, as one of the most popular branches of art, reflects this fact as it constantly morphs into a blend of eastern and western roots, two roots that were once supposedly very "far" from each other. The sound of sitar never sounded this near before.

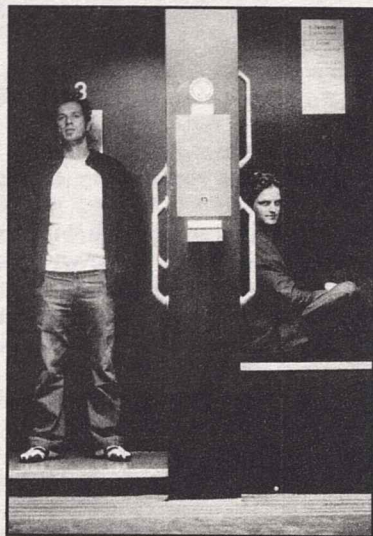


PHOTO BY REINALDO CODOU  
**ODD COUPLE:** Dzhian & Kamien test new ways to entertain.

Dzhian & Kamien is a duo from Vienna that exemplifies this transformation. Dzhian from Bosnia and Kamien from Germany met in the city of Mozart (more recently and relevantly Kruder & Dorfmeister). They take the infrastructure of trip-hop and house and use it as a foundation for Turkish and Near East melodies. Their style is mostly ironically loopy but highly intelligent and funny, too.

Although some heard of "Dzhian & Kamien" by 1996 with "Der Bauch," the killer that traveled all around the European clubs, they preferred staying underground. Once they gave the signal that they were capable of hits, they took on the role of a "liaison" between Near East and Europe.

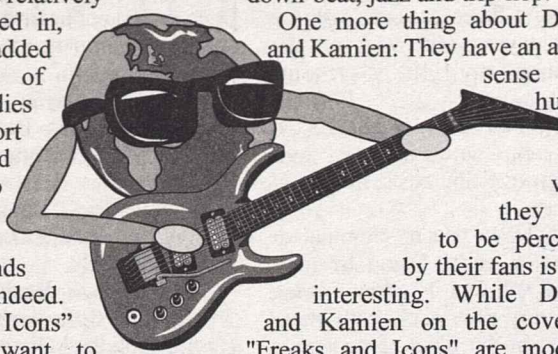
"Freaks and Icons" (2000), their first full-length album, was a product of particular interest in Turkey, especially Istanbul. The chaotic sounds of the city, people

and the string arrangements that resemble closely those of Arabic's, ruled the album. However, they avoided getting trapped in a territory that they are relatively less experienced in, but they also added in elements of western melodies with support of groovy and down-tempo beats for the sake of eclecticism. Sounds cool? It is indeed. "Freaks and Icons" makes you want to dance while taking a walk in the Topkapi Palace, the symbol of ancient Istanbul and the former "house" of the Ottoman sultans.

Following "Refreaked," the remix album on "Freaks and Icons," the duo released their masterpiece "Gran Riserva" in 2002. The album was a unique attempt in the field of electronica, but ironically, drums and bass lines were recorded live. That surely has to do with the fact that Dzhian is a drummer from Sarajevo and Kamien, a guitarist. "Gran Riserva's" impact was sudden. It sent a mild warning to bands such as Llorca, Tosca, DePhazz, Thievery Corporation and Zero7. It is a band that sold unbelievably in the United States, where pop seems to be the main artery of music.

It rapidly turned into a milestone among the fans of the genre and was well known as an unusual but surprisingly welcoming mixture of down-beat, jazz and trip-hop.

One more thing about Dzhian and Kamien: They have an absurd sense of humor.



The way they want to be perceived by their fans is quite interesting. While Dzhian and Kamien on the cover of "Freaks and Icons" are modified versions of the Star-Trek crew, the same duo becomes a weird couple of old men in front of their turntables. I do not know you guys, but I ask myself: "Why would a band present themselves as two weird old men on their album cover?" When I cannot find an answer, I laugh.

I have a few final words about Dzhian & Kamien. The dynasty of Kruder & Dorfmeister — a.k.a. K&D — in Austria is slowly turning into a D&K power. They seem just too shy to come out yet. But they are very well known and rest assured, fans they would pick for themselves are already listening to them. So, take your time guys. You have all the time in the world. Just keep on doing what you are doing. ★

## College fave hits town

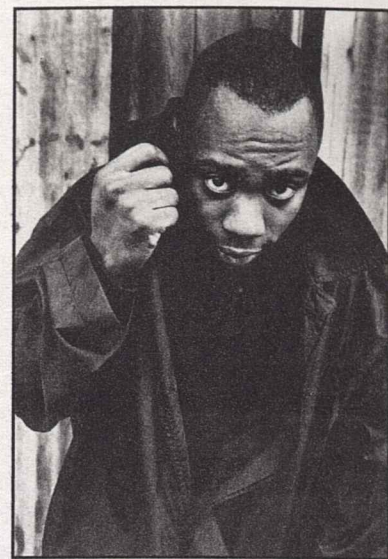


PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE CHAPPELLE  
**OPEN-MIC NIGHT:** Chappelle will perform standup for "Final Daze."

MARIE GLENN  
TimeOut Editor

The top dogs at Littlejohn are at it again, bringing you more great shows. Recently, they had three more additions to their lineups at Littlejohn. On April 23, you can take a break after classes end and before exams begin and take part in Clemson's "Final Daze" with standup comedian Dave Chappelle. Chappelle has entertained audiences in such movies as "Half Baked," "Robin Hood: Men in Tights" and "The Nutty Professor." His most recent project is his hit television show on Comedy Central "Chappelle's Show." The show has gained a large gathering, especially from the college crowd. With a hilarious combination of standup and skits, Dave Chappelle has made a mark on the entertainment world. For more information on Dave Chappelle, visit his website at [www.davechappelle.com](http://www.davechappelle.com). Tickets for students go on sale today, Feb. 27 and the general public tickets will go on sale tomorrow, Feb. 28. For students, faculty and staff with a CUID, tickets are \$21 for the floor, \$18 for the lower bowl and risers and \$15 for the upper bowl. For all others, tickets are \$31 for the floor, \$28 for the lower bowl and risers and \$25 for the upper bowl.

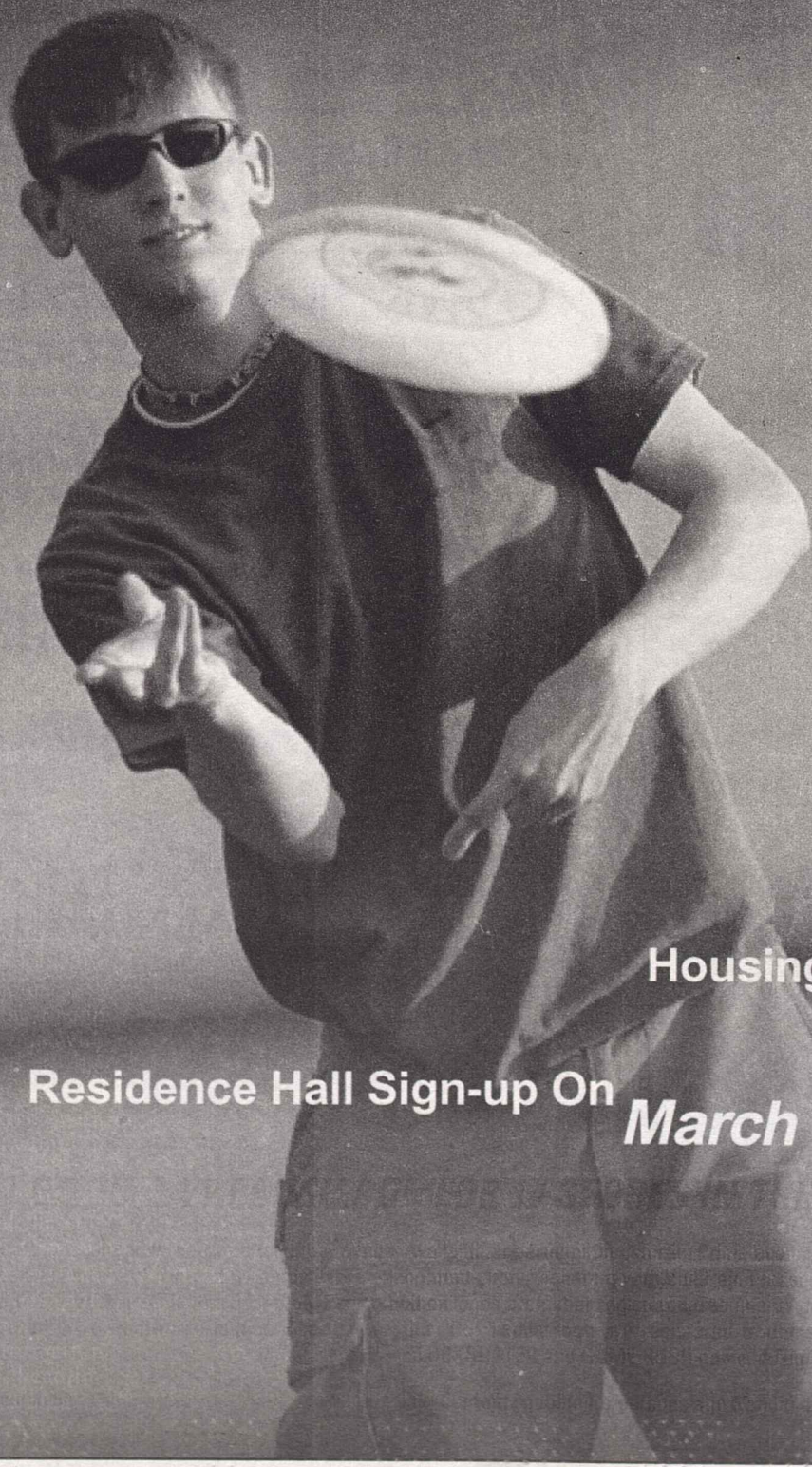
The second addition is an opener for the Brooks and Dunn concert on Mar. 6. Josh Turner, singer of the popular song "Long Black Train," will be taking the stage. Turner has connections to the state; he was raised in Hannah, S.C. After high school he headed to college at Belmont University, then went on with his career and performed at the Grande Ole Opry on Dec. 21, 2001. Tickets for the Brooks and Dunn concert are still on sale. Tickets are \$47 for the floor and risers, \$37 for the lower bowl and \$27 for the upper bowl seats.

He has been going strong ever since this performance. One month after his debut at the Grande Ole Opry he signed with MCA Nashville. In 2003, he released "Long Black Train." By the end of the year, the debut album had already hit gold. Josh Turner will definitely be one to look for among the stars at Littlejohn.

The final addition to the lineup at Littlejohn, in conjunction with MTV's Campus Invasion, is the band Hoobastank. Hoobastank gained recent recognition with their popular song "Crawling in the Dark." The concert will be held on April 2 and will be tied in with Campus Sweep, and the students who participate in Campus Sweep will receive a free pass to the show. All other tickets will be \$5.

Look for more information about these and other headlining shows headed to the area in upcoming issues! ★

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# Gibson's "Passion" affects audiences

THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST  
New Line Cinema  
Released: Out Now

**DANIEL McCORD**  
Assistant TimeOut Editor

Crucifixion. The idea of it is quite amazing. Basing a film almost entirely on the crucifixion of one of the most recognized icons in history is a rather risky endeavor. Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" will be judged on a different scale by everyone who views it. The most important question to be answered from a critical perspective, however, is one that may pass most people by — does the film work on a cinematic level?

"The Passion" tells the story of the last 12 hours of the life of Jesus Christ. It begins in the Garden of Gethsemane with Jesus praying. A mysterious cloaked character (apparently Satan) is standing nearby talking to him. Jesus takes no note of the character and continues to pray. The action begins almost immediately with absolutely no exposition, creating some interesting structural issues. The film is structured like almost no film I've ever seen, starting abruptly, slowing down, then going strong for the remainder of the film. Luckily Gibson uses several flashbacks to break up the action and give character to some of the individuals.

Knowing the story before going into the film really helps with understanding what's going on, especially since the dialogue is entirely in Latin and Aramaic.

The subtitles help, but at some points in the beginning, the action is hard to follow. Characters are not directly introduced and are just thrown into the action. It creates quite an interesting film, however, as it feels almost like a documentary.

As the story unfolds, Judas's downfall is shown, as he literally is confronted by demons and driven to suicide. After this, the "trial" of Jesus occurs. Pontius Pilate dismisses the case as out of his territory and sends Jesus to Herod to be judged.

Herod decides that Jesus is just crazy and sends him back to Pilate. One of the most interesting sequences then occurs. Gibson spotlights Pilate's internal conflict

regarding the judging of Jesus. His wife warns him not to cast judgment, yet he does so in order to appease the crowd. He tells them to punish but not kill Jesus, though he has done no wrong.

At this point the drama of the film ramps up to an almost unbearable level. The violence in the scenes where Jesus is being whipped is so brutal that if you are emotionally affected by movies, it may be difficult to watch. It is not gratuitous, but it goes on seemingly forever. The sound effects make it all the more agonizing. Each lashing draws blood and flesh, and you can hear it as if you were there. Jesus is beaten to a bloody pulp, far beyond the point my imagination could have seen. Each blow causes a great cringe from the audience.

The rest of the film is just as difficult to watch. Pilate finally allows Jesus to be condemned to death but washes his hands both figuratively and literally of the transgression. Jesus is then continually beaten during his slow march to Golgotha. What follows is one of the most overwhelming subjects ever filmed — the actual crucifixion. What many people don't know is that people who are crucified generally die from suffocation rather than loss of blood or anything like that. And the film shows this.

The arms are stretched against the horizontal part of the cross, literally hanging the person's body by his arms. The tension causes the person not to be able to breathe, so he must push his body up with his legs to gasp for breath. After a while, fatigue sets in, as well as pain from the nails in the legs, and the person is no longer able to push up for breath. Jesus was beaten to within an inch of his life, so he died before his two crucified companions. They did not die fast enough, so the Romans broke their legs with clubs so they would suffocate. The film captures all of this.

Overall, the acting was great all around. James Caviezel's work as the tortured Jesus was superb. Monica Bellucci's Mary Magdalene was also very convincing, and her anguish seemed real. The film works as art due to Gibson's interesting interpretations of age-old material. It's powerful due both to the subject and its extreme violence and is not for the weak of heart. "The Passion of the Christ" strives for greatness and achieves it due to its awesome level of intensity. ★

## Forget fluff of empty promises

**DANA BOOTHE**  
Staff Writer

Aspiring to the position of Assistant Photo Editor here at "The Tiger," I have recently started attending many events in attempts to acquire photographs for certain stories, sporting events and the like.

Last night I embarked on such a quest when I sat in on a meeting held by the Minority Council in which the candidates for student body president explained their platforms and answered questions from those gathered there.

In between taking shots of the candidates, I noticed that several of the questions dealt with racial and cultural issues. As I looked around, I realized that I was one of possibly four white (yes, I am throwing the politically correct term "Caucasian" out the window — I am not from Caucasia — and I don't even know where Caucasia is) people in the room, excluding the presidential hopefuls.

Then, I realized that each and every one of the four candidates running for president is a white male (which I will get back to later). Hmmm ... this made everything about the meeting much more interesting.

As audience members asked questions about candidates' personal involvement with multicultural affairs and future plans to increase the general awareness of other cultures, it was quite visible that our four candidates were definitely destined for politics. Sometimes pausing to fish the "right" answer from some sort of internal politically correct reservoir of responses, or rephrasing the question into one they had prepared for, the answers for almost every question seemed put on, and

severely insincere with perhaps Higginbotham as the sole exception.

One articulate and obviously intelligent young lady asked how the candidates planned to increase multicultural awareness; she also wondered if and how the presidential hopefuls would seek to make minorities feel more like a part of the Clemson family. The responses, while quite stunted in delivery and severely halted in nature resemble the campaign promises of national candidates: they sound good, but fall short. The responses of our candidates seemed substandard for two reasons.

First of all, no response really answered the question. Yes, each repeated (for probably the gazillionth time) that minority affairs would be an important part of their administration and that the concerns of minorities at Clemson would become their concerns as president. Well, duh. As president your job will be to represent the student body, to voice the concerns of those you represent. Now, answer the question: How will you increase multicultural awareness? Any new programs or events? Will you incite speakers from other cultures to come to the University? Will you require your staff to attend Minority Council meetings? What do you plan to DO?

The second issue is apparent only in the artificiality of the responses given. While in the meat (actually, I should say bulk because there was really little substance in the fluff answers given), bulk of the response, the candidates once again neglect the "how" of the question, simply stating that they will try to make the campus a multicultural place. The more serious grievance is their lack of

honesty with those participating in the forum. Too busy making promises, only one candidate mentioned that minorities make up only one seventh of our total student body population. You can't change enrollment, boys. You can attend events and you can encourage students to participate. You can conjure up new events and ways for there to be intercultural exchange, but the fact of the matter is, minorities make up one seventh of the population, 2,000 out of 14,000 students. That is just the way it is. Now, I want to make clear that I am not downplaying the importance of minority groups here at Clemson University or the need for there to be a more full exchange of cultural information and understanding. I am simply pointing out the transparency of the promises made by the candidates.

They have completely ignored the demographics of our student body in an attempt to be elected. Just be honest people, be realistic.

Another point I wanted to address was the fact that all four candidates are white males. While race and gender are obviously not the fault of any of the candidates, I was disappointed that there was little diversity on the panel.

There is a female running for a position in the cabinet, but why must our primary leader, president, be a male?

As for this election, it is too late, the candidates are set. However, I hope to see more diversity next year. Come on people, how can we expect the world to change if we are not willing to help change it?

*Dana Boothe is a sophomore majoring in psychology. Email comments to [TimeOut@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:TimeOut@TheTigerNews.com).*

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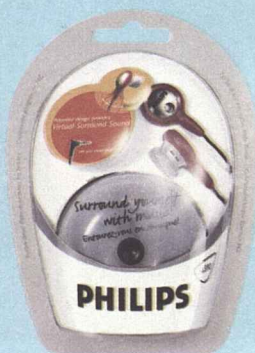
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#### Sony PSP (PlayStation Portable)

Sony has entered the portable game market with this amazing machine which is well above and beyond everything else in its category. With a 4.5-inch, 480 by 272-pixel LCD screen, it's graphical quality is greater than that of a PlayStation 2 connected to a home television. The dual 32-bit processors will run at 10 times the clock speed of an original PlayStation and each one will be just as powerful as the PlayStation 2. This is besides the graphics processor which will be able to put out 33 million polygons per second (compare to 38 million on the PS2). Using a new digital signal processing design, the PSP will have 7.1 channel 3D-sound and natively handle MP3, AAC and ATRAC3 format music. A high compression MPEG4 decoder is included and one of the 1.8GB discs designed for this system will be capable of holding two hours of DVD-quality video.

Besides the graphical powerhouse driving this device, it will also have several communication ports available to it. For getting your music and movies onto the device it comes with a USB 2.0 port. IrDA has been included which will provide interoperability between the PS2 and many other devices which use an infrared port. Perhaps most interesting is the onboard 802.11-standard LAN support which allows multiple players to play together with the two mbps data transfer rates available by the wireless device.



#### Philips Virtual Surround Sound In-Ear Headphones

In-ear headphones have long provided the highest quality audio reproduction for portable media devices without having the bulk of studio quality headsets. When they're in they also block out outside sound much like earplugs would, meaning that the volume level on the average portable audio player never goes above about two without being too much. The seal formed by the headphones means that the audio produced by them is received by the ear exactly as it was recorded. Only about a dozen in-head phones are available on the market at the moment, but this year Philips unveiled a new line of headphones in this specific market. With them they released the HE590 Virtual Surround Sound in-ear headphones. Using a patented speaker reflex technology, these headphones give you a simulated surround sound experience in a very tiny package, much like a stereo system does when it creates surround sound from a normal audio CD. Look for these along with several other new offerings in Philips headsets in stores soon.

#### iPod mini

When Apple first released the iPod several years ago it broke into a market already saturated with audio players of similar size and specifications. Apple's OSX operating system comes standard with the iTunes software package which made ripping CDs for the device and organizing the music easy. The iPod is treated just like an external hard drive by the Macintosh and with its high-speed firewire connection the iPod became extremely handy for many tasks besides audio playing. Last year Apple started the iTunes music store which sold music for the iTunes software and consequently the iPod over the Internet. In its first week the iTunes music store sold one million songs to people tired of dealing with the music industry's sales techniques. This was shortly followed by a release of the software for the PC and then just this month Pepsi started selling a third of its drinks with a free iTunes song offer.

The original iPod can be had with either a 40 or 60GB hard drive. This new release comes in a half-inch thick device with 1.5GB of space. Since the original costs upwards of \$400 it might not make much sense to release the new one at \$249 when it has only a fraction of the capacity, but when you look at what's available on the market in that price range it still beats out all the others. Also, Alpine has started making car stereos that let you plug your iPod into them to listen to in your car.

# NEW GADGETS FOR

#### Namco 5-in-1 Arcade Classics

For those of you out there who just can't get enough games, this is the product for you. The Namco 5-in-1 the games Pac-Man, Galaxian, Dig Dug, Rally-X and play plug the joystick plugs into your television with y hooked up to travel back in time to play some of the little contraption costs about \$20, can be found at your great investment for those into the '80s playtime.







#### Hammacher Schlemmer Aquatic Pod Suite

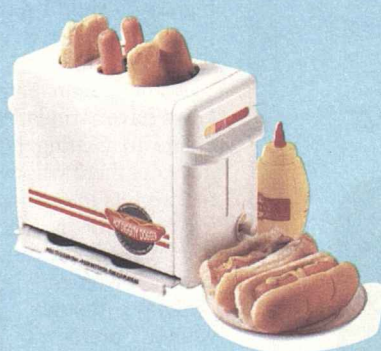
After you have graduated and started making the big bucks, why not treat yourself to the world's only Aquatic Pod Suite? This nifty invention offers panoramic views of the water both above and below. Expanding five feet below the water, the pod contains 150 square feet in its interior, along with a 6.6 foot terrace around the outside. Inside of the pod, you will find a king-sized bed, air conditioning, desalination unit, mini-bar, audio-video system with a Bose stereo, a toilet and a shower. At night, the water beneath the pod is lit up so that you can enjoy the scenery below. The Hammacher Schlemmer Aquatic Pod Suite is priced around \$91,000, but it comes with a lifetime guarantee. Don't worry, once you're out of school and after you've paid back all of your loans, you will have one of your own.



#### Motorola IM free Personal Instant Messenger

Alright all of you AOL Instant Messenger geeks out there, here is a toy that is right up your alley. This new wireless Motorola IM free Personal Instant Messenger lets you talk on AOL IM up to 150 feet away from your computer. There are absolutely no additional monthly fees and you can talk to up to six of your online friends at one time. Now, if you walk away from the computer for a few minutes, you can always keep on chatting to make sure that you have your plans ready for the weekend.

## FOR A NEW GENERATION



#### Hammacher Schlemmer Pop-Up Hot Dog Cooker

Do you ever tire of nuking your hotdogs and your buns? If so, not to worry because with Hammacher Schlemmer's Pop-Up Hot Dog Cooker hot dogs are as easy to cook as a regular piece of toast. That's right! All you have to do is stick the wieners and the buns in the slots, much like those of a toaster, and in minutes you will be ready to eat your tasty hot dog. These little helpful kitchen appliances will run you about \$50, and they would be well worth the price if you don't have to deal with the nuking anymore. Plus, it's guaranteed for life. Now where can you find a better deal than that?

#### Sony Hi-MD

The Sony Minidisc player has been out for several years now, and while it never really made waves inside the United States it managed to become extremely popular in other countries around the world. It became particularly popular in England, where Minidisc players are more common than CD players. A normal Minidisc can hold 80 minutes of near-CD quality sound in 177MB. The Minidisc players are barely larger than the 70mm discs themselves and can come with a built-in microphone or a microphone jack making them popular for recording CD quality bootlegs at concerts. This year at the Consumer Electronics Show Sony unveiled the Hi-MD which is a 1.0GB upgrade to the older version. Using a new read and write technology the magneto optical disc players can format the older discs to up to 305MB. The 1.0GB version of the discs can hold 45 hours of ATRAC3plus audio or nearly one and a half hours of CD quality audio. Like the previous versions of the players these will have audio input via either analog or optical digital connections as well as a way to connect straight to a computer. Like similar devices out today the Hi-MD players will be able to store any kind of digital file besides music.





# Flick portrays harsh realities of region in South America



**CITY OF GOD**  
Miramax Films  
Released: Out Now

**MATTHEW TOWNSEND**  
Staff Writer

Last year "City of God" was released in several theaters within the United States. It was made in 2002 in Brazil, based on the autobiographical book by Paulo Lins. Its release was relatively silent but like so many other independent films its popularity spread through word of mouth and the various internet avenues. So far I've yet to meet one person who doesn't think it is one of the greatest movies ever made. One thing key to keeping it universally appreciated is the discretion people use when

choosing which friends to show it to. There should be no doubt that this movie is intended for people who can stomach some of the strongest violence a movie is capable of having.

"City of God" has more unadulterated violence than any movie in my recollection. There's just no way to equate watching youths, actually children, running about with guns drawn engaged in firefights, much like you'd see in a war movie as people are being mowed down all around. The choking brutality will leave a definite impression on you. This is not a movie you want your little brother to become a fan of.

City of God is up for four Academy Awards — including best directing, best cinematography, and best-adapted screenplay. It is shot using what appears to be low quality film but this only reinforces its documentary style to give you the feel that you're seeing through Lins' memory.

Since his story is itself so incredibly unique the combination yields a film that you never doubt for a second is true and real.

From beginning to end City of God never slows down, telling the decade long story of Busca-Pé (Rocket by the subtitles) as he finds himself witness to nearly every violent act in the heart of Rio de Janeiro's slum district Cidade de Deus.

In his youth Rocket lives with an older brother who, with two other teens, runs about robbing trucks and holding up motels. The result of one of their heists ends with dozens of people dead and the police on the lookout for the three known as the Tender Trio. Their stories are momentarily forgotten as the movie starts the story of Lil'Ze who used to run around with the Tender Trio in his youth. Ten years after Rocket's brother and his friends have stopped terrorizing the city Lil'Ze has built

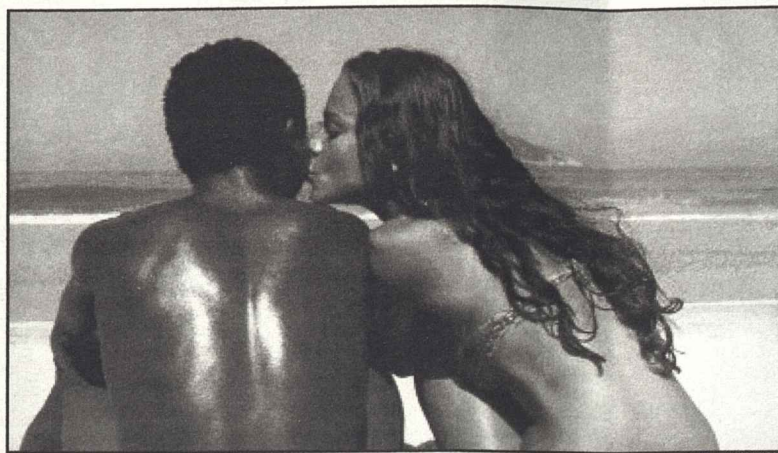


PHOTO COURTESY OF MIRAMAX FILMS

**BEAUTIFUL BEACHES:** Although the beaches are a wonderful sight, the turmoil and violence in the rest of the region were not far behind.

up a near city-wide drug operation with the exception of one operation on one corner of town. Lil'Ze's thirst for murder would have long since rid him of the dealer by the name of Carrot except that Carrot is a friend of Lil'Ze's lifelong friend Bene, the only person able to keep Lil'Ze remotely reasonable.

Rocket spends his time in the city getting menial jobs to get by without ending up party to the crime that's so extremely evident city-wide. Rocket's youth spent being the photographer among his friends gives him a unique perspective in all the dealings in the city. From the outside Cidade de Deus is a mess, a mystery of violence and near-war. It's just too

dangerous to approach by anyone with intent on recording the activities within. Rocket finds himself the singular voice from within able to tell the true story.

"City of God" is not a movie you can walk away from easily. Once you start watching it you'll definitely want to finish it. When it's over you'll be impressed by the magnitude of what went on in that region of South America. In case you ever doubt the validity of such an incredible story, watch as the credits roll newsreels from the 70's with the real people from the story saying word-for-word what was said in the movie.

"City of God" is set to be available on DVD this summer. ★

The Tiger will hold elections for senior staff positions on Wednesday, March 10. Stop by The Tiger office in the Hendrix center for an application.

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## Nice guys finish last again

THE NICE GUYS' GUIDE TO GETTING GIRLS  
John Fate and The Nice Guys  
Released: Out Now

**ADAM STEINBERG**  
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day has come and gone, and therefore so has your night of Jim Beam and Woody Allen. So, what can you do if you are a guy to improve your chances of actually having a female date for next year's big day? Well, a self-help book is a possibility. This is where The Nice Guys come in.

Authors John Fate and The Nice Guys have written "The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls" for all the guys out there who want to know the real secrets to making females fall in love with them. The authors claim that "You can be a nice guy and still attract women!"

I always thought women preferred guys who insulted them. This "book" contains chapters discussing topics such as: online dating, the best type of bars for picking up women, meeting women in the airport, performing oral sex and conveying interest in conversation. After all, it is normal for all nice guys to have trouble conveying interest in conversation.

The book does reiterate some basic useful social skills. Properly introducing yourself and shaking hands is stressed; nothing to quarrel with there. They also stress body language during conversation, such as nodding your head and not crossing your arms. The author also states how one should not appear desperate when sending e-mails through an online dating service (oxymoron?). This is all basically common sense knowledge, and is hardly worth the price of the book.

This book claims to allow people to be nice and still meet women, but the book contradicts itself too many times to be taken seriously. For starters, one of the main objectives of the

book is to teach a nice guy how to meet women and get them to go to bed with you. One testimonial in the book from a male tells of how he was a 19 year-old-virgin, but through the help of The Nice Guys, he was able to meet a girl in class and have sex with her three days later. Nice guys indeed.

Honestly, this book and The Nice Guys are a joke. The book reads more like a pamphlet, with huge text and wide margins on the page. If the text was printed in normal size then the book probably would not break 100 pages — not that size matters. The writing is bad and often comical at times. The author constantly refers to females as "beautiful women." This book is also a constant advertisement to purchase The Nice Guys' other books and also to visit their website and order new material. Practically every chapter makes reference to how the reader should visit their website ([www.theniceguys.com](http://www.theniceguys.com)) and purchase more books, audio tapes and DVDs.

In the chapter discussing online dating, Match.com is constantly mentioned as the online service that the author uses to conduct his Internet dating research. If the site was stated a few instances it might be ok, but it is obvious that the website paid the author to advertise its service in the book, and it becomes plain annoying to constantly read "Match.com." It is plain to see that the author's first priority is to make money, not to actually help people.

This book is really an insult to nice guys everywhere. The author mocks guys who really are nice and whose sole goal in life is not to hook up with as many girls as possible. The fact that the book is one long commercial is inexcusable.

They should be paying me for having to read this book. If you are still considering buying this book, do yourself a favor and save the money, ask that girl out you are obsessed with, and use the money on a nice dinner. Maybe one day you can write a book that might actually be useful to people. ★

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.....

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**E** Content suitable for persons age 6 and older. **T** Content suitable for persons age 13 and older. **M** Content suitable for persons age 17 and older.



## beat of the week

## "Shoofly Pie" needs more time in oven



**SHOOFLY PIE**  
Tim Downs  
Released: Out Now

**ADAM THOMPSON**  
Staff Writer

The main ingredients of shoofly pie, the rich Pennsylvania Amish dessert, are sugar and molasses — the sweet and the sticky. And while I'm aware that the Cheesy Analogy Police may come knocking on my door after this one, here goes anyway: if, for the sugar, you substitute a recyclable murder mystery plot and, for the molasses, a slightly less than subtle religious subtext, you pretty much have "Shoofly Pie," Tim Downs' first and latest novel. Oh, and the book has bugs — lots of bugs. They can be the crumb topping.

"Shoofly Pie" is the first of Downs' planned "Bug Man" novel series and the first offering from Howard Publishing's new line of fiction. "Where your faith finds a friend," is Howard Fiction's slogan, and a Christian would probably have to look hard to find anything remotely distressing or challenging in this novel; there is not a curse word or a sex scene to be found in the book's nearly 400 pages. However, the pages do seem to evidence a dry well of creativity and a questionable view of reality.

Downs' novel is basically "CSI"

with bugs instead of high-tech forensic science, and it even plays out episodically like a television show or a Hollywood movie, with many of its conventions and prefabricated characters.

Dr. Nick Polchack is "the Bug Man," a forensic entomologist (not an etymologist, as he explains — "That would be the study of word origins — not much help here"), which means he examines the stages of postmortem bug infestation in corpses to determine things about their deaths. Never content merely with his professorship at N.C. State, this wisecracking maverick is prone to satisfying his adventurous spirit by inviting himself into police investigations and solving the crimes for them.

Kathryn Guilford is a small-town girl with an unfortunate phobia for Dr. Polchack's favorite creatures. When her friend dies of an apparent suicide and she questions the police's investigation of the matter, she approaches the Bug Man for

help in distress. The sheriff in this rural North Carolina community thinks it's an open-and-shut case, but according to him, Kathryn "has her own mind about these things."

What follows is a predictable mishmash of Hollywood suspense thriller, "Indiana Jones" and "The Dukes of Hazzard," as Nick and Kathryn set out to solve the unexplained death against an antagonistic group of Good 'Ol Boys. Thankfully, for once bucking convention, Downs mostly stays away from a syrupy romance between his lead characters (he does hint at some tension between the two, but it's all very chaste).

It is apparent, through his detailed descriptions of the science

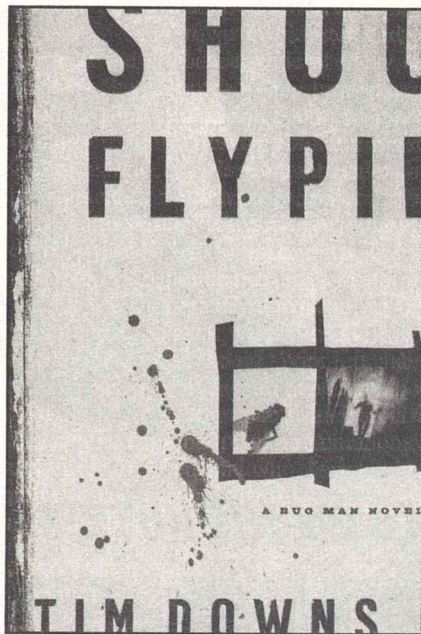
of forensic entomology, that Downs did a load of research for this novel. Downs is a very competent writer, and he paces his novel well, but the explanations tend to get tedious after awhile. Still, much of it is very interesting and does provide a somewhat

novel background for this plot we've seen too many times before.

With much of the emphasis on science and suspense, it might be easy to forget that "Shoofly Pie" is also intended, as will be all Howard Fiction releases, to promote Christianity. Many of the messages are meant to be subtle: Dr. Polchack is a classic skeptic with very poor vision who views death in a merely scientific way and only wants the facts. To him, dead people are just "bug food," and he wants to hear only what you know — not what you believe. When a close friend dies, however, the Bug Man is forced to reevaluate this philosophy.

Very conspicuous, on the other hand, is the muting filter of heightened morality through which the events of the novel are passed. The worst profanity ever uttered by a character is "diddly squat," and the closest any characters come to having sex is sitting on the same bed. While it keeps out any profane or sexually outrageous material, the filter somehow allows graphic descriptions of fistfights, bloated corpses and gun murders without a shred of regret.

I understand many people may want reading material that shuts its eyes to the realities of this world they might find offensive, but "Shoofly Pie" seems to want to have its cake and examine the maggots inside it, too. And so while the religious aspect of this novel may keep some readers stuck, the squeaky-clean characters and the all-too-familiar plot are just too sweet to digest. ★



## Flick scares viewers off



**RUNAWAY JURY**  
Regency Films  
Released: Out Now

**RENEE PELTON**  
Staff Writer

Some books shouldn't be movies. This would be one of them that the movie world should have just left alone, for those who actually enjoy in a while pick up a book to enjoy. The book is in the same group as "Dreamcatcher," which is a thriller that was put to film and destroyed. The only reason this movie received partially good ratings among critics is due to the acting skill of the all-star cast that was involved.

The movie, which was adapted from the John Grisham novel of the same name, stars John Cusack (Nicolas Easter) who is a man that finagles his way onto the jury of an extremely high profile case. The case is a lawsuit from the wife of a business man, who was gunned down in his office along with ten other employees, against the gun company who produced the weapon that killed her husband.

This is where the good versus bad, North versus South, aspect comes in. Wendall Rohr (Dustin Hoffman) is the southern gentleman-type Louisiana attorney representing Mrs. Wood; and Rankin Fitch (Gene Hackman) is the big city "Jury Consultant" paid by the gun companies to use any means necessary to make sure that they win.

Durwood Cable (Bruce Davison) and Lawrence Green (Jeremy Piven) are two characters that are hopefully more developed in the book; in the movie they seem to just be filler so that the teams on both sides of the case are even. Cable is the inconsequential defense attorney on a leash that spends the entire movie being fed directions from Fitch through an ear piece, and Green is the "Jury Consultant" for the prosecution.

Then there is Marlee (Rachel Weisz) who is the girlfriend of Easter who spends the entire movie selling the jury to the attorneys in an attempt at \$15 million.

The movie sets these characters up as one-dimensional money-hungry people, except for Hoffman who is the one character that seems like a decent person. By the time that Cusack and Weisz's characters show the motivation behind their behavior, you're so bored that you're just glad the movie is over.

Essentially, this movie shows an elaborate portrayal of the breakdown of the Justice system. The idea that money can buy a verdict completely undermines the entire reason of having a trial. Also, the idea that people can get a list of potential Jury members before a trial, stalk them and learn about them, then use blackmail to make the vote a certain way, or that someone who is using an alias can get selected and put onto a jury in the first place make the basis of the movie a stretch of imagination.

However, it also shows an almost accurate portrayal of how easily people can be manipulated, and how much people despise civic duty. But more than that, it shows how easily large corporations are willing to sacrifice people's lives to keep turning a profit.

This is one of those movies that is not worth seeing at the Astro during the week. It was a disappointment, especially because the book has had such great reviews, but unfortunately the video rental place wouldn't give me my money back.

As reviewer, Stella Papamichael stated about the film, "If John Grisham were on trial for crimes against cinema, Runaway Jury would serve as exhibit A." ★

## Dexter Freebish returns with bang on new label



**TRIPPED INTO DIVINE**  
Dexter Freebish  
Released: Out Now

**DANIEL McCORD**  
Assistant TimeOut Editor

"Quo vadimus?" That may be what the members of Dexter Freebish asked themselves after the release of their last album, 2000's "A Life of Saturdays." Four years is quite a break before the release of a sophomore album, but it may be necessary and worthwhile if that's what it takes to avoid the proverbial "sophomore slump." Instead of churning out an uninspired, meaningless album whilst their name was

hot from the success of the hit single (and John Lennon Songwriting Contest winning) "Leaving Town," the boys toured a while, sat down and actually thought a while and, quite possibly said, "Where are we going?" (That's the meaning of the Latin phrase — once again borrowed from "Sports Night.")

Seventy songs and several tours down the road, Dexter Freebish, named after a now defunct Houston roller coaster, decided to lay down a dozen tracks for an all new album. And thus "Tripped into Divine" is born, a power-pop record with more depth and maturity than most products of the genre. While "catchy" may be a requisite trait for inclusion in the genre, meaningful lyrics and musical talent definitely are not. Dexter Freebish adds not only these things but also a bit of their

own level of verve to an increasingly insipid genre.

While sticking to the pop formula, "Tripping Into Divine" definitely runs the gamut of influences. I'm not a die hard fan of the Power-Pop genre (with emphasis on the word "pop"), but I will say that this album is aurally impressive.

Hooks abound due to guitarist Scott Romig's ventures into many styles. His presence on the keys also adds something that is much missed and that reflects the rock 'n' roll of yesteryear.

Lead singer Kyle's voice is so powerful that in many cases it takes precedence over the melodic music and forces it to be overlooked. This isn't really a problem, but sometimes forces the listener to focus on the lyrics. For someone who believes songs should be judged by the music rather

than lyrics, this causes a change in perspective.

On track one, "Prozac (Be Like Me)," Kyle admits to something a lot of musicians pretend they don't care about — wanting to be a superstar. His confession, "I want to be that guy that gets the girl and saves the world and everyone would wanna be like me," reflects the insecurities of someone from a generation raised on movies.

The guitar of "Pretty People" immediately sounds reminiscent of an INXS song, and the lyrics serve as an indication of how lightly they are taking the album. "I cannot help it that I'm so good looking, I cannot help it that I have a perfect body." Either this is the war cry of an ego-maniac or criticism of those people who use their appearance to get them places.

"Heavy" sounds like it could easily have been pulled from Jump, Little Children's 2001 "Vertigo" in terms of vocal and musical style. The song serves as a major highlight of the album, inviting the listener to clear his mind and relax to the melody. The song's title refers to the weight a specific personal relationship carried and reaches out to anyone who has ever had a difficult relationship.

As a whole, the album has a nice pace, interspersing slower, more vocal tracks with heavier, riff-laden tracks throughout. It plateaus at the right moments then smoothes down to a nice finale called "Breakdown." The track is a sort of short epic, building tension in all the right places and (no pun intended) breaking down when it needs to. "Tripped into Divine" is a good overall power pop album but really does nothing innovative in the face of music. I do have to laud Dexter Freebish, however, for dropping their old label, Capitol, and going over to SIXTHMAN for creative concerns. Anytime a band who has held the spotlight at one time moves to a more independent label, they deserve some respect. Give the album a listen, and you won't be let down or blown away either. ★



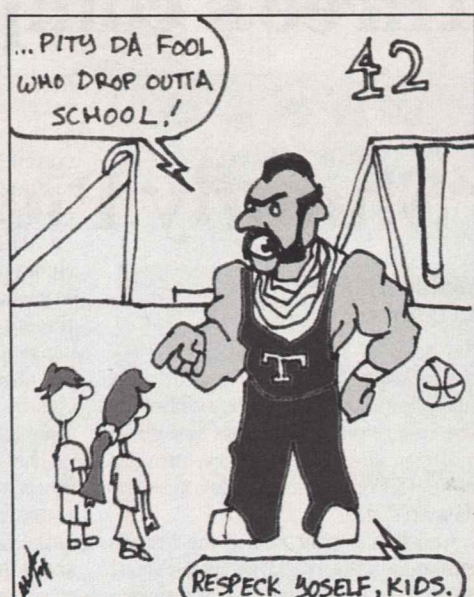
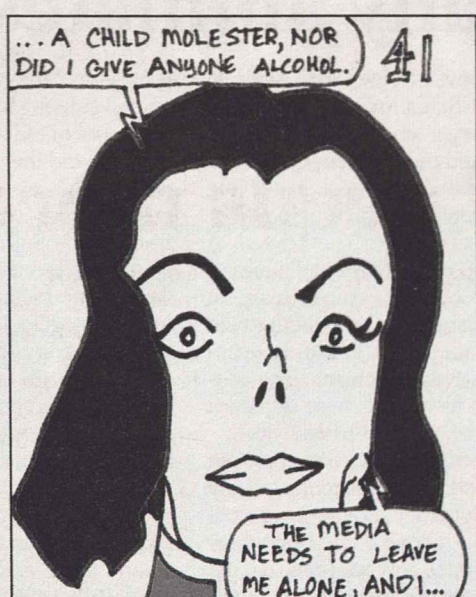
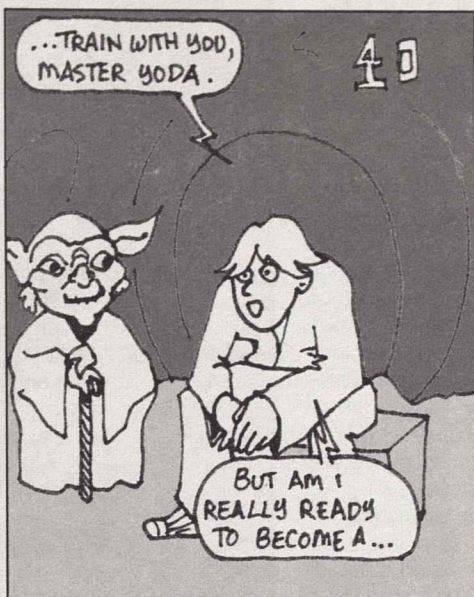
PHOTO COURTESY OF 360 MEDIA

**BACK WITH A BRAND NEW EDITION:** Dexter Freebish took an unusually long four-year break between albums to find themselves as musicians.



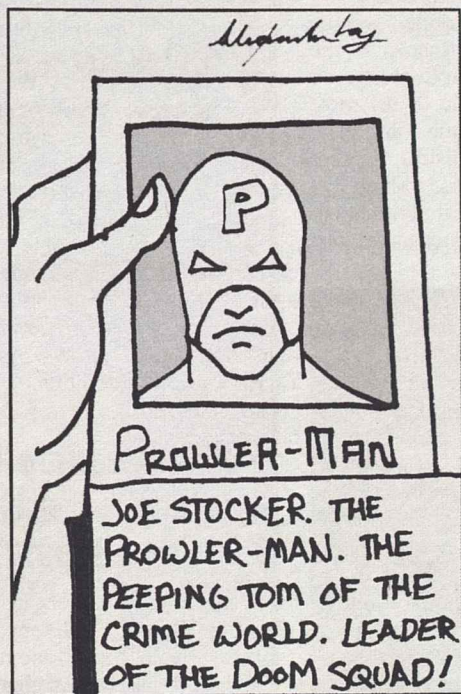
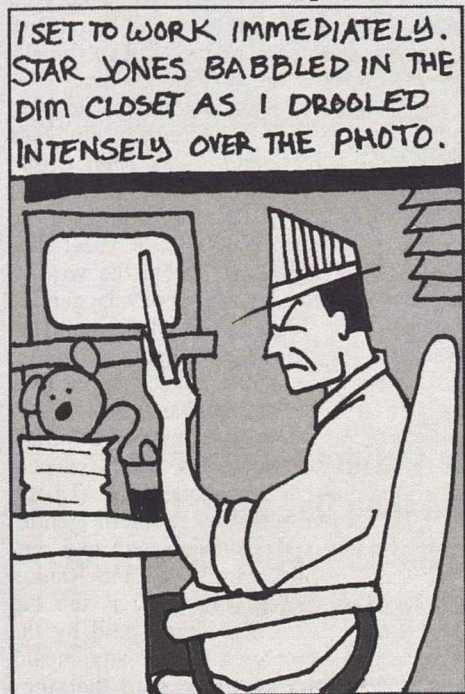
# The Lollipop King

by Alex Lay

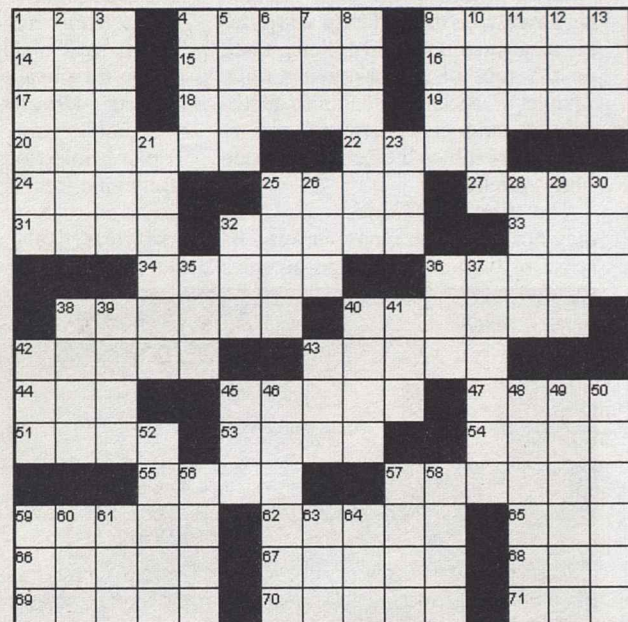


# The Doom Squad

by Alex Lay



# Crossword



Across

- 1 Bro.'s sibling
- 4 Small bunch of flowers
- 9 San (CA city)
- 14 Dynamite
- 15 Injury
- 16 Recommended
- 17 Wrath
- 18 Athletic field
- 19 Sounded like a cow
- 20 Search for food
- 22 Northwest by north
- 24 Touch down
- 25 Hurry
- 27 Alter
- 31 Swiss-like cheese
- 32 Hazardous
- 33 Drink
- 34 Objects
- 36 Buzz
- 38 Inform
- 40 Composer Bach
- 42 Rationalism
- 43 Criminal imprisoned for life
- 44 White-tailed sea

Down

- 45 eagle
- 47 Inhabited
- 51 Prosper
- 53 Came out of sleep
- 54 Christmas carol
- 55 Head bug
- 56 Middle East dweller
- 57 Followed
- 59 Big
- 62 Knife edge
- 65 Annex
- 66 Be upright
- 67 Thieves' hideouts
- 68 Caviar
- 69 Brief
- 70 Remove
- 71 Pigpen

- 9 Stupid
- 10 Pressers
- 11 Self
- 12 "To the right!"
- 13 Peculiar
- 21 Professes
- 23 Reporter's question
- 25 Covered with ice
- 26 Ship initials
- 28 Part of the "KKK"
- 29 Make
- 30 Words per minute
- 32 Arbiter
- 35 Dickens' Tiny
- 36 That girl
- 37 Quaver
- 38 Roman emperor
- 39 Squeal
- 40 Jack's playmate
- 41 Often poetically
- 42 Condensation
- 43 Downwind
- 45 Cell stuff
- 46 Tilt
- 48 Lubricators
- 49 Wildcat
- 50 Series of songs
- 52 Makes money
- 56 Traveled by car
- 57 Possessive pronoun
- 58 Otherwise
- 59 Clock time
- 60 Snacked
- 61 Cab
- 63 Serving of corn
- 64 By way of

# Last Week's Answers

ACES	WACS	ADAM
GREW	ELAN	AMIGO
AURA	NINA	SPEED
IMITATE	PHIL	
NBE	WBN	IDEALS
COY	RODE	RAT
CAROL	LANES	ERE
USED	CENTS	CAGE
RPM	PREGO	MUSED
III	AIRY	OAR
ACTORS	MRS	CPA
ALPS	ADHERED	
LISSO	AQUA	TIED
ASTIR	LEVI	NERO
WHYLS	EDEN	ASISN

# Horoscopes

by Miss Lucky Charms

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18):** Look out for a friend's betrayal. Wednesday is going to be a very rough day so stay on top of things.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20):** Your personality is standing in the way of your progress. See your faults and overcome them.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19):** You mix well with others. Use that to your benefit on Thursday and good things will come of it.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20):** Don't waste time by sitting around being lazy on your couch. Get out there and see what the world has to offer. No one ever went anywhere by being lazy.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 21):** Use your creativity to alleviate boredom this week. Classes may be redundant, but paying attention this week will benefit you on the next test.

**Cancer (June 22 – July 22):** A little goes a long way so don't press the issue. Stop being so stubborn.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22):** An experience over immeasurable proportions

comes your way this week. Take a chance and see how great it is.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22):** A reliable friend lets you down this week. Do not blame them, it's not their fault. Extenuating circumstances keep them busy; forgive and forget.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 23):** You will meet a very interesting person this week that will catch your attention. An unexpected relationship will develop from this.

**Scorpio (Oct. 24 – Nov. 21):** Get away for the weekend; although spring break is close, you need a stress reliever now to make it. Pamper yourself!

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21):** Try a little cooking this week, you may surprise yourself. Also, keep a watch on your significant other's behavior, they may be feeling a little neglected.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19):** Be frugal this week. Save that money for Spring Break, it will be a lot more fun then, what you were going to get will come your way free of charge.



# Three's company animates flick



TRIPLETS OF BELLEVILLE  
Sony Pictures Classics  
Released: Out Now

**MICHAEL HUNLEY**  
Staff Writer

You know you're in for a different kind of animated film when within the first five minutes, a topless Josephine Baker is attacked by crazy, aroused men and Fred Astaire is devoured by his own shoes.

And that's what makes the French animated import "The Triplets of Belleville" so brilliant — it's unlike anything you've ever seen. Even the animation is bold, surreal and creative, thanks to the bizarre vision of director Sylvain Chomet, who creates a vibrant and striking world of delightful characters — from a club-footed grandma to an obese and excitable dog. The film has delighted moviegoers around the world, and it is competing with two Disney films for the Best Animated Feature Oscar.

The aforementioned grandma is Madame Souza, the diminutive guardian of her beloved grandson Champion. Wanting to bring Champion out of the blue funk he's been in, Souza tries everything to please him, from buying him the highly strung puppy Bruno to getting him a bike, which she finds is the key that finally makes him happy.

Years later, Champion is still riding bikes, wanting to enter into the Tour de France. With Souza as his trainer, he turns into a stick-thin cyclist.

Champion soon enters into the renowned bicycling competition, but things go awry when he — and two other cyclists — are kidnapped by two mysterious, square-shaped men from the French Mafia. Souza, with Bruno in tow, follows them to the dirty and crowded city of Belleville (a tongue-

in-cheek view of New York, with an overweight Statue of Liberty holding a cheeseburger and a population of corpulent and rude citizens).

Souza and Bruno, lost in the big city, get help from three aging singers. These singers are The Triplets of Belleville, popular music-hall singers. The three eccentric women assist in finding Champion who is being held captive by the Mafia in a truly peculiar money-making scheme. The conclusion is a hysterical chase sequence that has to be seen to be believed.

This utterly lovely film is even more remarkable considering only about five lines of dialogue are spoken in the film. And one of the best things about the film is how well-realized the characters are, something you don't see very much in animated films, or any genre of films these days.

Even Bruno is given a distinct personality — the audience witnesses his recurring nightmare of being stuck on the roof of a fast-moving train. "Triplet's" eccentricity is also a real delight, and its charming quality greatly resembles the beloved French film "Amelie."

The film's quirkiness, however, may not click with many viewers. Its sense of humor is odd and at times

grotesque, for the Triplet's many unconventional habits include making music out of old refrigerators, vacuum cleaners and the crinkling of newspaper, and they also have a strong appetite for frogs (they love everything from frog soup to frozen frog-sicles). However, for viewers who don't mind their humor to be rather different, they will surely get a kick out of this film.

The rest is great physical comedy and wonderful animation — director Chomet cites his many influences from people ranging from Walt Disney to British comedian Rowan Atkinson (a.k.a. Mr. Bean).

Chomet's animation is meticulous and heavily detailed (the film took around three years to make), but one can tell that all this effort was for a true labor of love, and the world that he has created is an expression of pure adoration of the art of animation.

The film moves quite swiftly, though sans dialogue, thanks to the wonderful music of Ben Charest. And one can't leave out one of the most memorable parts of the film, The Triplet's infectious musical number "Belleville Rendez-Vous," which just earned a Best Song Oscar nomination. It's bizarre, lively and enchanting, just like the movie. ★



**DROP A BEAT:** The movie "The Triplets of Belleville" is up against other top quality animation films at the Academy Awards on Sunday.

*What to expect in next week's issue:*

**Graduating in May? Find out about the Top 50 things you should do before flipping the tassel.**

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